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FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER 1995

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SECTION TWO

SEALS Why we have too many

WALESA Talks about his comeback

100 15D.

EXERCISE It's definitely bad for you

FIVE AND A CAR GO TO FRANCE FOR = JUST £25 See page 26

Minister admits measles vaccine made 500 children ill

JAN ROBERTS

More than 500 children suffered serious reactions following last year's measles vaccination campaign, which some scientists

believe was unnecessary. Tom Sackville, Parliamentary Secretary at the Department of Health, said last night

that one quarter of the 530 cases were of the "immediate allergic type reactions from which no serious or long-lasting effects were known to have resulted."

Three-quarters suffered "late-onset" serious reactions, such as arthritis or flu-like symptoms but none suffered any long-term damage, spokesman for the Department

said, "The Medicines Control Agency has checked them all out and found no causal link." But parents of more than 170 children who, it is claimed, developed rippling illnesses after the immerisation, last night

dismissed suggestions that no

child suffered long-term

They claim their children,

been left with problems ranging from partial paralysis and incontinence to seizures and brain damage, and up to 100 promised they would continue with legal action for compensation. The parents say appropriate warnings about the risks

Jackie Fletcher, founder of

aged between five and 16, have JABS, a parents' support group said: "The ministers are out of touch with what has happened if they truly believe that no child suffered long-term damage.

The campaign to vaccinate 8m school children in the UK followed public health specialists' forecasts of a measles epidemic on a scale not seen since the 1950s, Parents were told that

up to 200,000 people could be infected, and there would be up trician and editor of the Bulletin to 50 deaths among children in an outbreak. In the event, only 35 measles

cases were diagnosed in the first four months of 1995, just two of them in children.

The Government says this proves the success of the campaign, but critics, led by Dr of Medical Ethics, say evidence to support predictions of an epidemic has never been

Speaking during a Commons adjournment debate last night, Mr Sackville said that, by mid-1994, measles was occurring at a higher frequency in England and Wales and an epidemic had already occurred in Scot-

There was a total of 2,735 re actions reported from 1,202 children - a rate of one child affeeted for every 6,700 reactions. Most reports were of minor damage or of harm unlikely to have been caused by the

the governors, said: "This has

been a stressful and unhappy time for the college and all con-

reputation of Dulwich College.

considerable contribution to

the life and success of the col-

lege over the last eight years, for

which the governors and parents

The school was now deter-

mined to get back to normal, Sir

Colin added, and would adver-

tise for a new master next week.

college on mutually agreed

Ann Ridley has also left the

Mr Verity was suspended in

August, four months after Mrs

Ridley, his secretary of four

years, claimed that he sexually

harassed her on a trip to Thai-

Many parents were furious to

be told of the claims only just

before the start of this term.

Mothers led by Sue Macdi-

armid and Deborah Roslund

launched a campaign of support

years ago. Alumni include P.G.

Wodehouse, Raymond Chan-

dler and Eddie George,

Governor of the Bank of Eng-

Mr Verity was awarded a

Dulwich was founded 375

land last November.

for the head.

well in the future."

'Mr Verity has made a very

Tory 'moral majority' MPs beat Mackay

Family violence Bill dropped

DONALD MACINTYRE Political Editor

Lord Mackay, the Lord Chancellor, was last night fighting to keep his reform of divorce law affoat after bowing to Tory backbench pressure and shelving a planned Bill on domestic violence.

He made no secret of his disappointment at losing a piece of legislation which was ambushed in its closing parliamentary stages by "moral Tory MPs who complained that it undermined marriage by strengthening protection against battering for unmarried women.

In a concession which his supporters now hope will ensure that his threatened divorce measure will be included in this month's Queen's Speech, Lord Mackay said he was "considering" the representations made to him but that it was "impossible to make further progress" with the Bill in the current parliamentary session. He made it clear that he was

still battling to retain the new divorce law - which ends quickie" divorces on grounds of fault - in the legislative programme, during a series of radio and television interviews in which he declared pointedly that he hoped the Bill would "come forward as soon as possible".

Labour's legal affairs spokesman, Paul Boateng, complained that the domestic violence measure had fallen victim to a "bloody family feud with-in the Tory party", but there were signs that the Lord Chan-

cellor's chances of preserving his Divorce Reform Bill had improved since last weekend.

It remains far from certain that the Bill will be given the green light when ministers meet on Monday to finalise the 1995-6 programme. However, optimism in the Lord Chancellor's Department was rein-

What the Bill would have done

The Family Homes and Domestic Violence Bill would have provided protection against actual or threatened violence, molestation or ha rassment in magistrates and county courts, for spouses. conabitees, former spouses former cohabitees, mothers unier threat from violent sons and

There would have been greater police powers to arrest perpetrators who defied court rders. Occupation orders - including orders to pay rent or mortgage - for those outside the spouse/cohabitee category would have been for six-month periods, and granted only after securing an order for occupation rights.

forced by unmistakeable signs of a backbench fightback in Lord Mackay's favour.

As a group of Tory MPs, led by Peter Bottomley, went to see the Lord Chancellor to express their strong support for the measure, there was also evidence of a belated backlash against the critics who had forced him to withdraw the domestic violence Bill. Teresa Gorman, the right-wing liber-tarian MP for Billericay, called Lord Mackay's critics "silly".

In an article in last night's London Evening Standard, Mrs Gorman praised the "universally respected" Lord Mackay and added: "The Bill is the first of two reforms designed to come to terms with the fact that social patterns have changed while the law still reflects the idea that marriage is the only legitimate way of living together;

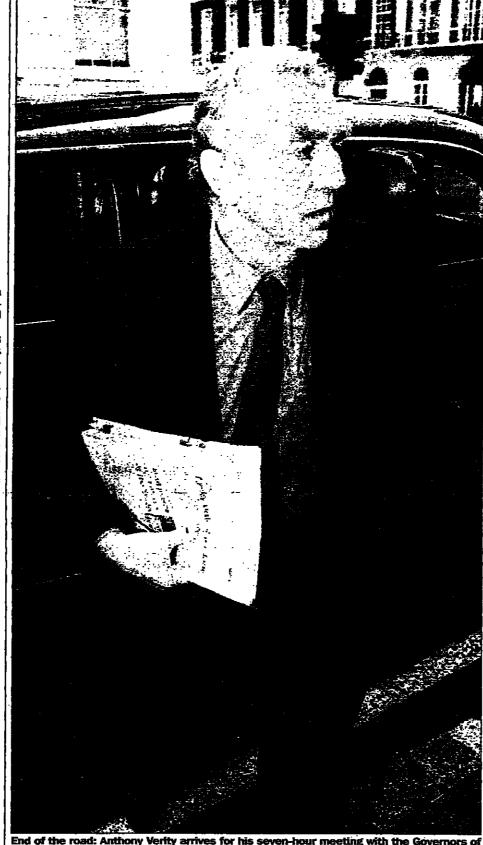
anything else is living in sin."

Meanwhile, speaking after his meeting with the Lord Chancellor, Mr Bottomley said of the divorce measure: "If the Mothers' Union support it - and they do - then so should we."

But Lady Olga Maitland. one of the most prominent backbench opponents of both Bills, called in the Commons yesterday for a debate on the "role of the family in British society". She added: "We have now reached a watershed as to whether the role of the family should be enhanced or whether it should be undermined as seems to me to be certainly happening in public debate.

Refuge, which provides accommodation and support for women and children escaping domestic violence, described the shelving of the "long overdue" reforms as a tragedy.

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Chil-dren (NSPCC) urged the Government to re-introduce the Bill into Parliament at the 'earliest possible opportunity".



News analysis, page 19 End of the road: Anthony Verity arrives for his seven-hour meeting with the Governors of Leading article, page 20 Dulwich College yesterday. Terms of his retirement were not disclosed Photograph: PA

Schools win, roads lose in spending fight

Chief Political Correspondent

Gillian Shephard yesterday out came out on top in a bruising spending battle with Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, over her demand for £800m extra for education, but it will lead to deep cuts in defence, roads, overseas aid, social security and housing. The Prime Minister gave the

Secretary of State for Education and Employment his backing to settle her budget demand for

agree cuts in spending to clear the way for up to £3-5bn in tax cuts. It will meet again next

Monday to complete the task. Ministers agreed the report of the Cabinet EDX spending committee, chaired by the Chancellor, setting out the strategy for reducing public expen-diture by more than £3bn below the £263bn total previously set for next year.

Michael Heseltine, the deputy Prime Minister, was said to have played a crucial role in forcing cuts in running costs. amounting to a swingeing 5 per cent across the board in Whitehall. Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of State for Health, also won an increase in his budget to fulfil a commitment for a real-terms increase in the NHS each year.

It is expected that the Chancellor will announce that the public expenditure total has been cut by £2-3bn and senior Tories said he could raid £3bn from the contingency reserve for of the regimes.

tax cuts. Norman Lamont, the former Chancellor, led calls for the money to be spent on a 1p cut in the basic 25p rate, and raising the threshold at which people begin paying the higher rate of 40p in the pound.

The victory for Mrs Shephard will be paid for in other budgets. Overseas aid is to be slashed, possibly by reducing develop-ment funding for countries such as Kenya and Nigeria, to save cash and to register disapproval

The Secretary of State for Defence, Michael Portillo, is being forced to accept deeper cuts, causing fresh rumblings of discontent from Tory backbench MPs

Peter Lilley, Secretary of State for Social Security, is close to settling cuts in his spending through a freeze on some benefits not covered by with inflation. Long-term savings will be achieved by abolishing lone-parent benefit for by-pass may be reprieved.

new claimants, underlining Tory commitment to the family. John Gummer, the Secretary

of State for Environment, has conceded a £400m cut in the grant for housing association, reducing it to £800m, which is likely to be criticised by the house building industry. Sir George Young, the Secretary of State for Transport, has been the statutory up-rating in line forced to shelve much of his road programme, although key schemes such as the Newbury

N BRIEF

France claimed a major

breakthrough after police ar-

rested an Algerian said to

have helped to "command

and co-ordinate" recent bomb

attacks in France.

Lottery hitting the economy On the day John Major hailed the National Lottery as a great success, it emerged that the biggest loser has been the British economy – and that some children are spending more than half their pocket money on lottery tickets. Latest stalistics show the lottery has taken billions of pounds out of the economy and has cut into spending on other items. Page 23 lic Life declared. Bomb 'chief' held

MPs warned over Notan A failure by MPs to back disclosure of their earnings from consultancies would damage the honour and reputation of parliament in the eyes of the electorate, a

Feeding bad habits School dinners are bad for your health, according to the National Heart Forum. Many schools provide meals that are high in fat and sugar and member of the Nolan Com- are putting children at mittee on Standards in Pubrisk of developing heart Page 2 discase. Page 2

Blow for Karadzic

The Bosnian peace talks have been told Nato is unlikely to agree to police any settlement that leaves the Bosnian Serb leaders Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic in place.



COMMENT

Nursery vouchers: Wandsworth Council's leader sings their praises. Page 21 Helen Wilkinson vents her wrath on the family fundamentalists. Page 21 News Analysis: Britain's Judges versus the

Another View: The Unification Church's view of their leader, Reverend Moon, who is banned from

Page 20 entering Britain. Leading Article: "The case is now strong for an

oil embargo against Nigeria." Weather: It will be dry but rather cold over most parts of the United Kingdom. Eastern areas of England will be cloudy with Section Two, page 33

BUSINESS 23-28 COMMENT 20,21 CROSSWORD 32 GAZETTE 22 LAW REPORT 22 LEADING ARTICLES 20 LETTERS 20. NEWS 2-18: OBITUARIES 22 SHARES 27 SPORT 29-32 UNIT TRUSTS 28

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Dulwich head retires after sex inquiry

LOUISE JURY

The master of Dulwich College, cerned. The governors' sole who has been at the centre of sexual harassment allegations, objective throughout has been to protect and sustain the fine dramatically resigned his post last night after a seven-hour meeting with governors.

A statement issued through solicitors said Anthony Verity, 56, was to take early retirement from the £12,270-a-year college in south London where he had are very grateful. We wish him been headmaster since 1986.

Governors had earlier cleared him of sexual harassment claims made by school secretary Anne Ridley, 38, but vesterday they found that Mr Verity "had permitted an inappropriate relationship to develop and this affected the performance of his duties".

Mr Verity, who will receive a financial settlement rumoured to approach £1 million, strongly disputed there was any im-But after the meeting at a

private club in central London, he looked stern-faced as he left with his wife, Patricia, saying: "I'm not allowed to say anything."
Shortly afterwards, Jane Mann, solicitor for the school, released a statement outlining

college" for the father of two to take early retirement. She released no details of the financial package. Sir Colin Cole, chairman of

both parties' agreement that it

was "in the best interests of the

first class degree at Cambridge University. At Dulwich he was in charge of 1,400 pupils.

Cardinal's Intestine was one name suggested but Bishops Finger sounded so much more mouthwatering.



THE SERIOUS BEER WITH THE SILLY NAME.

IN BRIEF

Stalker recaptured by armed police

A prisoner who stalked an MP's personal assistant was recaptured yesterday by armed police after escaping from a mental

Dale Morris, 29, who is or-dered to be detained indefinitely under the Mental Health Act. became obsessed with Louise Hobkinson - an ex-model and

former researcher for the Con-servative MP Bill Cash. Morris disappeared from Menzies House at Leek.

Staffordshire, our Tuesday night and was reported to be armed with a shotgun. Police arrested him in Hantord, Staffordshire.

An inquiry has been launched

into why a 17-year-old work ex-

perience student was allowed to

stitch a patient's wounds on two occasions at Bradford Royal In-

firmary. On the first occasion the A-level pupil was shown how to stitch a patient by a senior access officer and put two stitch

es into the woman's leg. A week later, he put another

Shotgun appeal fails

Ted Newbury, 83, of likeston

Derbyshire, lost his appeal

against a court ruling that he must pay over £4.000 damages

three stitches into her leg-

No firearm was found.

A-level surgery

Nolan furore: More backbenchers join revolt over Government refusal to back recommendation on outside earnings

Disclosure issue 'risks damaging Parliament'

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES Political Correspondent

A failure by MPs to back disclosure of MPs carnings from consultancies would damage the honour and reputation of Parliament in the eyes of the electorate, a member of the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life said yesterday.

The warning came as more Tory backbenchers joined the growing rebellion against the Government's refusal go along with the original Nolan recommendation for disclosure.

Approaching two dozen MPs were yesterday prepared either to vote against the Government or abstain, threatening a cliffhanger vote in the House on Monday

The MPs are, however, currently split into two groups, one arguing for disclosure with immediate effect and the other backing implementation after

the next election. Peter Thurnham, MP for Bolton North East, and Sir Teddy Taylor, MP for Southend East, were yesterday circulating a draft amendment for Monday's debate in the hope of garnering backing for an all-party amendment reflecting the lat-

University, was the first member of Lord Nolan's committee to speak out after Wednesday's report on implementation of its recommendations by a select committee of MPs.

The question here is one of the honour and reputation of parliament," Professor King said in an interview with BBC Radio 4's The World at One.

He said the issue had become party political - a view privately shared by some Tory MPs yes-terday, who felt John Major has leapt too swiftly to the defence of the Conservative majority on the select committee.

Professor King said: "If the House of Commons does turn down this part of the Nolan committee's recommendations, then I am sure the Labour Party will go on hammering away at the Conservatives and I am sure a lot of voters will be deeply displeased. So it won't go away politically.

He said the select committee had produced a "very impressive report, but the paid advocacy ban would not stop MPs lunching with or chatting to min-

Professor King's stance was soon contradicted by another Nolan committee member, Tom King, the former Conservative Meanwhile, Anthony King, cabinet minister, at Prime Min-Professor of Politics at Essex ister's Questions – although he



Standards bearer: Lord Nolan outside his office in King Charles Street, central London, yesterday

was the only Tory backbencher the Cabinet and the Governto defend non-disclosure as Labour MPs launched an onslaught on Mr Major.

Tony Blair, the Labour leader, challenged the Prime Minister: "Having set up Nolan and having agreed to implement it, what possible justification are you going to give when you come to the House of Commons on Monday, along with

ment, and vote down its key recommendation - the simple, bonest requirement that Members of Parliament who have outside financial interests connected with their being MPs should disclose the amount of money they earn from them. What do you and your party

have to hide? The advocacy ban reverses

Register of Members' Interests on the so-called 1947 Resolution, which outlaws MPs selling

But the Conservative-dominated select committee made only a limited attempt to stop MPs circumventing it in Wednesday's report - a proviisters or officials introduced by

the inroads made by rules on the an MP with a declarable interest should be recorded in the Register of Members' Interest.

Letters and other forms of contact are not mentioned. Labour claims that many MPs will get round the advocacy ban by getting contracts with outside interests defined as

purely advisory. Labour also argued yesterday that the select committee report

NICHOLAS JOMMINS

A scheme that would allow

pensioners to defer part of

their pension on retirement in

order to provide them with

cover if they need long-term

care has emerged as a front-run-

ner among a package of mea-sures to tackle the mounting

crisis in how to fund long-term

go into a tax exempt fund which

required long-term care – either

The idea is one of the ways

ministers are likely to honour

more flexible use of pensions"

that the Prime Minister

promised in his party confer-

Other measures under con-

sideration include promising

free long-term care where peo-

ple agree to meet the cost of the

That could be paid for by an

insurance package taken while

at work, one bought using part

of the lump sum which accom-

panies many private sector pen-

sions or by individuals using

their own savings to cover three years' worth of care.

the state would pick up the bill

but crucially would do so with-

out a means-test - allowing

people to keep their houses and

pass any other remaining in-heritance on to their heirs.

The scheme - similar to

packages already developed in New York state and in Con-

necticut in the United States -

is being studied by Peter Lilley,

the Secretary of State for Social

Security, as part of a govern-

ment-wide review on how to

fund long-term care in the fu-

ture in the face of an increase

of 3 million in those past re-

tirement age between now and

Once that was exhausted.

first three years themselves.

ence speech last mouth.

ing or residential home.

The deferred pension would

care for the elderly.

Public Policy Editor

had simply banned advocacy un-der contracts obliging MPs to lobby on behalf of the interests they represented. It did not address the issue tackled by Lord Nolan in his report, where he said: "the [1947] resolution does not prohibit members from voluntarily speaking, lobbying or voting in support of their clients' interest if the members think it right to do so".

Peter Lilley: has options

Other options being consid-

over long-term care crisis

ered include allowing those

nearing retirement to pay more

than the present statutory max-

imum into a pension fund, on

condition the cash is clearly car-

marked for long-term care should that provide necessary.

At present between one in six

their days in long term care.

crisis in long-term care is ex-

pected in Kenneth Clarke's

budget later this month. The

Chancellor, however, is resist-

lief on premiums for long-term

Other options ministers have examined include a short-term

easing of the means-test for res-

idential and nursing care so that

people would start to receive

help when their savings have

been run down to £16,000.

rather than the current £8,000

and allowing people to sell

their homes and put the capi-

tal into trust when they enter

to contribute to home fees, but

the capital could be inherited.

Both measures, however, would

increase social security spend-

The interest would be used

care insurance.

residential care.

pressure to introduce tax re-

and one in eight pensioners end

An announcement of the first moves to ease the looming

plan may solve

care dilemma

Photograph: Dillon Bryden

to an intruder he unintentionally blasted with a shotgun while defending a shed on his allotment. Rail trees saved Campaigners have forced Rail-track to back down from a decision to fell more than 700 trees along the Guildford to Reading line. Sixty oak and silver birches will be untouched and the rest of the trees will be coppieed to a height of three feet. Robbery alert Ports and airports were on full alert for a pair of "violent organised thieves" believed to be trying to flee after a £50%(000) ewellery robbery at a West End antique jewellers in which a 47-year-old assistant was pis-tol-whipped. Pension deferral Ulster troops leave

> About 600 men of 45 Commando Royal Marine, based in the border region of Co Fermanagh for the past six months, are due to leave the province at the end of the month and will

not be replaced. Helpline launched

Troop levels in Northern Ireland

are to be cut again in the wake of the terrorist ceasefires.

The Samaritans launched a new £5m telephone network yesterday to ensure callers are never faced with an engaged tone. The number, 0345 909090. is available for the price of a local call.

Cancer screening

Almost a quarter more breast cancers can be detected by taking two X-rays during routine screening rather than the one mammogram which has been the usual practice, according to a study at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London published in the British Medical Journal.

Peter Brooke: an apology

Peter Brooke, Conservative MP for the City of London and Westminster South, asks us to point out that he has never been divorced or separated. His first wife died in 1985, He remarried in 1991. We apologise for our

Cellnet and

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD inaSch40 NTands R5.00 BelgrumBFr80 ktaly L4,500Pis300 Madera ... Esc325 Cyprus C£1.20 Maha 43 cents Denmark Dkr18 Norway Nkr20 45p Rortugal ... Esc 325 France Pt.24 Spain Pts300 Germany ... DM4.5 Sweden SW20 Greece Dr450 Santzerland . Str4.00 LINEMEDOLUNG ... LIFFO USA \$3.00 OVERSEAS SURSCRIPTIONS mail, 13 weeks: Europe £110.78; Zone 1.(Netde East, America, Africa and India), £1,84,095; Zone

2 (For East and Australians) £208.70. To order, please send cheque payable to Johnsons basinetional Media Service: Log to 43 Militaripous, London ELA 97R telephone 0171-538 8388. Credit cards velicom BACK ISSUES

Back somes of the independent are

Oftel forced to tone down attack on Blair's internet deal with BT

with BT to cable up schools, hospitals and libraries to the information superhighway for free was attacked by the telecom regulator yesterday for increasing the company's monopoly power.

However, Don Cruickshank. director general of Oftel, was forced to withdraw part of his attack, after Labour responded furiously, insisting it would not give BT special rights.

Mr Cruickshank claimed in a BBC radio interview on Wednesday night that the Labour-BT deal promoted monopoly and said: "I think schools should have a choice. They should not be obliged to hook up to BT."

But within hours he was forced to issue a clarification, after Labour insisted it did not want to give BT exclusive rights.

In his Brighton conference speech last month Mr Blair, the Labour leader, announced that he had agreed to allow BT to sell broadcast services - TV channels and computer data on its network from 2002 in return for social benefits.

A spokesman for Mr Blair

the Government which was preventing it, he said.

library in Britain. For free."

it's more of a concept."

dermine the others."

Tony Blair, speech to Labour conference,

Brighton, 3 October: "In return for access to

the market, I can announce BT has agreed, as:

they build up their network, to connect up every

school, every college, every hospital and every

Sir lain Vallance, BT chairman, 3 October:

"We strongly believe we can make a tremen-

public services and in particular health and:

BT spokesman, 3 October: "It's not a deal,"

lan Lang, President of the Board of Trade

5 October: "If there is a deal, it cannot be

seen to be in the public interest. Competition

and choice best serve the consumer, not private,

sweetheart deals with one company that un-

Said it was "totally absurd" to suggest that Labour was trying to give BT monopoly rights. "It would be open to cable commoting of competition by lifting the would be open to cable commoting competition by lifting the cable commoting of the party planned "to re-moting competition by lifting the cable commoting competition by lifting the cable commonities. punies to bid to link up schools and hospitals as well," he said. prohibition to allow BT into the and others" to ensure that "the market for cable companies." Labour wanted "more compe- Mr Cruickshank was on hol- new networks".

tition in the market" and it was iday at the time of Mr Blair's conference speech, and was not consulted, but a briefing

The BT deal, what they said

whole country is linked to the

The cable companies are already offering schools free access

to their networks, and they were Margaret Beckett. Labour's note issued by the Labour Par-spokeswoman for trade and in-ty with the text of the speech tached to BT's "self-interested"

> think is correct and in the interests of the country as a whole, not just of BT. Don Cruickshank, Oftel director general, 1 November: "I am against the monopolistic element, certainly (of the Labour-BT deal). I think schools should have a choice. They should not

inet minister, 5 October: On this occasion

Mr Blair is proposing to do something which

dous contribution to improving the delivery of the obliged to hook up to BI." Tony Blair's spokesman, 1 November: "It would be open to cable companies to bid to link up schools and hospitals as well. Labour wants more competition in the market."

Don Cruickshank, 2 November: Oftel 'will have nothing to do with monopolistic or exclusive supply by BT, and I am glad that the Labour Party agrees with this." lan Taylor, technology minister, 2 November:

"If I as a minister had done a deal as bad as Lord Tebbit, BT director and former Tery Cab. Tony Blair did with BT, I'd be sacked on the spot. the cable companies association yesterday said "relations with the Labour Party are very good '. But Mr Cruickshank stood

offer. However, a spokesman for

part of his ground yesterday, saying cabling schools and hospitals was a social issue which should not be tied up with the competition issue - the question of when BT should be allowed to sell TV services on its network. The Government has banned the giant privatised company from doing so until at least 2002 in order to protect the cable companies from BT's market power while they establish themselves

would pay out higher benefits if the pensioner of their spouse in the market. Ian Taylor, technology minister, said: "Effectively Blair is in their own house or in a nursallowing BT into the broadcast market without the precondition of competition which we have applied." the promise to examine "the

But Graham Allen, a Labour frontbencher involved in the negotiations with both BT and the cable companies, said: "Cirrently we have a cable monopoly. The last thing we want to do is substitute a BT monopoly for a cable monopoly."

The cable companies claim to

have already invested £5bn in creating a national network, capable of carrying high-capacity data and TV channels.

GRAHAM'S

GRRRENADIERS GUARD IT.

الم الأصل

GRRRAHAM'S Just roll it round your tongue.

Bank rejects ferret fanciers

PETER VICTOR

A bitter row blew up yesterday as ferret funciers fell foul of ethical investment policies at the Co-op Bank.

Members of a Bedfordshirebased welfare group for mustella furo (the ferret) yesterday

described the bank as "barmy" for refusing to allow them to open au account because it said they were supporters of a 'cruel' sport. One ferret fancier, Mary

Neale, said she was shocked when the bank turned down her animals that have been ill-treat-

for the Bedford Ferret Welfare Society which raises thousands of pounds to pay vets' bills and support abandoned animals.

Managers at the bank's Luton Business Centre said ferrets were used to hunt rabbits and the group should take its business elsewhere.

Ms Neale, from Bedford, said: "As a society we are interested in promoting the welfare of ferrets. The money we raise from racing events, fairs and donations is all used to help

application to open an account ed. Many of us aren't involved in ferreting for rabbits. But those who do are often brought in by farmers or gardeners who see it as the most humane form of culling. It's just a completely barmy decision."

David Smith, spokesman for the Co-op Bank, said: "We won't support anyone involved in blood sport; that means the use of animals or birds to capture, fight or kill other animals. We consulted the League Against Cruel Sports ... and we ranked it alongside fox-hunting as a cruel sport."

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Every one a winner: The sportswriters' choice of the top 100 sports men and women

The people's cricketer



4. Bobby Moore - Footballer 9.Dr. W.G. Grace - Cricketer 10.Brian Clough - Footballer 11.Sir Roger Bannister - Four-

12.Mary Rand - Pentathlete 13 David Gower - Cricketer 14 Jackie Stewart - Racing driver 15 Fred Perry · Tennis plays 16 Frank Bruno · Boxer 17.Kenny Dalglish - Footballer 18.Gareth Edwards - Rugby playe 19 Nick Faldo - Golfer 20.Red Rum - Racehorse 21.Sir Stanley Matthews - Footballer 22.Barry John - Rugby player

Linford Christie

25.Sir Bobby Charlton - Footballer 26 Mary Peters - Pentathlete 27 Ken Buchanan - Boxer 28.Jimmy Greaves - Footballe 29.Harold Larwood - Cricketer 92 Steven Redorave - Rower 33.Tony Jacklin - Golfer 34.Jock Stein - Football manage

38.Tom Finney - Footballer

42.Sally Gunnell - Hurdler 43.Paul Gascolgne - Footballer 44.Dennis Compton - Cricketer 45_limmv Wilde - Boxer 46.Ellery Hanley - Rugby league

49 Jonathan Edwards - Triple jumper 50.Mike Atherton - Cricketer 51.Mike Gibson - Rugby union player 52.Starling Moss - Racing driver 53.Dennis Law - Footballer 54.8ob Champion and Aldiniti -Jockey and his horse 55.Alan Knott - Cricketer 56...im Baxter - Footbalk

57. Jonathan Davies - Rugby union and League player 58.5m Laker - Crickete 59.Rory Underwood - Rugby union glayer 60.Coan Jackson - Hurdler 61 Ann Jones - Temis player 62 Willie-John McBride - Rugby union

64.Bob Fitzsirrunons - Boxer 65.Virginia Wade - Tennis 66.Rob Andrew - Rugby union player 67.David Hemery - Hurdler 68.Benny Lynch - Boxer 69. Nigel Mansell - Racing driver 70. Barry Sheen - Motor cyclist 21. Genemo Chrise - Cyclist

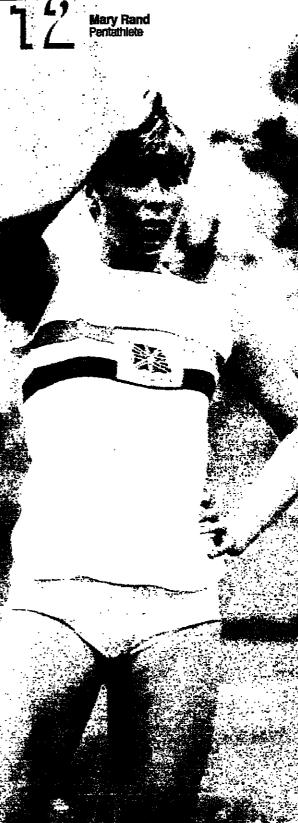
73.Eric Liddell - Sprinter 74.C.B. Fry - Cricketer, Footballer and longjumper 75 Jimmy White - Snooker player 76 Gavin Hastings - Rugby union

pæyer 77.Naseem Hamed - Boxer 78.Jim Fox - Pentathlete 79.Joe Davis - Snooker player 80.Tessa Sanderson - Javelin thrower 81. Tom Morris and Tom Morris Jar. -Golfers 82.8ob Paisley - Football manage 83.Geoff Boycott - Cricketer

84.Sam Torrance - Goifer 85.Carl Fogarty - Motor cyclist 86.Seryl Burton - Cyclist 87.John Surlees - Motor cyclist and

racing driver 89.David Wilkie - Swimmer 90.Johnny Leach - Table tennis player 91.Laura Davies - Golfer

91. Laure Centro - Gode 92. Roy Race - Cartoon footballer 93. Jonah Berrington - Squash player 94. Alson Fisher - Snocker player 95. Sean Kerley - Hockey player 96. Rachel Heyhoe-Flint - Cricketer 97. Torviti and Dean - ice skaters 98.Bob Nudd - Champion angler 99.Mike McManus - Wn



Best takes top spot in the league of heroes

JOHN McKIE

It promises to start countless pub arguments but that was part of the intention.

When Total Sport magazine polled 1,000 sports writers. broadcasters and former stars for their favourite British Sports Heroes of all time for its first issue, there were bound to be some controversial verdicts.

People polled included Gary Lineker, Bill Beaumont, Geoff Boycott, Des Lynam, Brough Scott and Harry Carpenter. They voted George Best into first place, with Ian Botham second, Linford Christie third, Bobby Moore fourth and Lester Piggott fifth. Among the exclusions in the list of 100 favourites are legends including Graham Gooch, Geoff Hurst and Robin Cousins.

to infuriate people, but that's no bad thing. "The poll was about sporting

music magazine Q to edit Total Sport, said: "Yes, it's going

heroes and that's why George Best is at number one. He seemed to reflect something marvellous about this country in the Sixties ... He may have indulged in a lot of drink and women but it was a life a lot of us would liked to have lived. From numbers two to five in our poll were very close but George Best won by a long way."

The poll reflects popular heroes rather than champions. Steve Davis won six World Snooker titles but does not feature in the top 100. Alex "Hurricane" Higgins, only twice world champion, is at number 36 and Jimmy White, who has never won the world title, is at

Mr Kelly acknowledged that Champion MBE. Kelly admitthe ages of those who voted ted that it was not just the perwere also a factor and the result given the high prominence of George Best and the 1966 World Cup hero Bobby Moore

in the top five.
The highest placed woman, Mary Rand, was voted into 12th place because of her heroics in the 1964 Olympics, where she won a gold medal in the long jump, silver in the pentathlon and bronze in the sprint relay Other women to perform well included another pentathlete, Mary Peters, (26) the current track star Sally Gunnell (42) and former Wimbledon champions Ann Jones (61) and Virginia

The highest placed non-human is the recently deceased Red Rum (20), although at number 54 Aldinite shares a sonality of the star which influenced the votes but their panache with which they carried out their day jobs. "I don't think I'd want to

spend a lot of time down the pub with Ian Botham but he made an Australian cricket captain cry and, not to be too jingoistic about it, that's no bad thing in my book."

Current heroes, like the boxer Prince Naseem Hamed (77) and the footballer Ryan Giggs (47) are included, although both are in their early twenties. England's rugby union cap-

tain Will Carling, who is not included, will be less than delighted to see the inclusion of teammates Rory Underwood (59) and Rob Andrew (66). However, the Princess of Wales was not among those polled.

Howard 'toeing EU line' by combating asylum seekers

HEATHER MILLS Home Affairs Correspondent

17.75

Michael Howard was last night embroiled in a fresh controversy over his plans to clamp down on asylum seekers after documents revealed that the Euro-sceptic Home Secretary had already secretly agreed them with other European ministers.

News that Mr Howard is actually implementing a harmonised European immigration and asylum policy will greatly embarrass the Home Secretary, who only last month boast-

ed to his party conference: "Our immigration policy will be decided here in Britain. And not in Brussels. We will never sur-

render control of our frontiers." In fact, the two key propos-als in the forthcoming Immi-gration and Asylum Bill to be included in next week's Queen's Speech were agreed behind closed doors in Europe - one as long ago as 1992. Documents seen by the Independent show that even the advice recently given to Conservative MPs on how to deal with any criticism of the policy was based

on guidelines from the EU, issued by the president's office. Although the resolutions are

not legally binding on member states, governments are obliged to "strive to bring their na-tional legislation into line by January 1996". That is exactly what Mr Howard is doing.

Last night, there was anger on Mr Howard's own back benches that the Government was "on the one hand professing to belong to a Europe of nation states, while on the other enging in secret integration". Richard Shepherd, MP for

Aldridge-Brownhills, said: "It is a scandal that issues as fundamental as immigration and asysuch an undemocratic and secret fashion".

Senior Home Office sources rejected claims that Mr Howard was merely adopting European policy. "These resolutions were agreed to on the basis they did not conflict with developing proposals for stemming the flow of illegal immigration into Britain," the source said. "The resolutions are not legally binding and the Government has successfully prevented immi-European level."

But Jack Straw, shadow Home Secretary, accused Mr Howard of "flying the Union Jack while following the European stars". "It is a nice irony that a Euro-sceptic Home Secretary is having his own asylum policy driven by a fortress Europe group in Brussels.

"These revelations follow the British government's acquieswhich will impose visitors' visas on up to 30 Commonwealth countries for which they are not required at the moment".

The first of the two key proposals of the new Bill is the drawing up of a so called "white list" of countries, deemed to be "safe" and therefore unlikely to produce real refugees. It was, in fact, first adopted by EU home affairs ministers at a meeting in London in 1992.

The second – the abolition of full appeal rights to those refugees arriving via a safe third country, for example France - appears in an EU resolution, adopted by Mr Howard

in Luxembourg in June, four months before his party con-

In the face of widespread opposition from employers orunisations and welfare groups, the Government is apparently rethinking its proposed third plank - to fine employers who hire illegal immigrants. Richard Dunstan, refugee of-

ficer for Amnesty International, said: "Michael Howard appears to be trying to have his cake and eat it. On the one hand he played to the Euro-sceptic gallery at the Conservative par-

ty conference by pledging that EU policy will be determined here in Britain. But on the other hand he is set to introduce legislation that is derived entirely from EU documents drawn up by a secretive cabal of EU officials.

He said the process was producing common EU asylum policy based on the lowest common denominator. "It falls short of international standards lacks essential safeguards and will therefore undermine the international community's system for protecting refugees."

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Kevin was being questioned by Alan Suckling QC, for the prosecution, about the "deliberate lie" he told to the Bank of Nova Scotia on instructions from his father.

In a series of angry clashes, Kevin denied that he and his father had knowingly put pension funds at risk for their own self-

The Maxwell Trial



had misled institutions in 1991, and before that, on the instructions of his father.

Kevin told the court, on his 14th day in the witness box, that

he wished he had stood up to his father, but instead did as he was told and later had to apologise to the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Asked if he had told any other lies, he said he had not, but added: "Over the years I was involved in dozens of presentations to City institutions, to banks and all kinds of third parties. At the end of the day, my father was responsible for the script or messages being delivered, and some of the messages were not lies but certainly they could have been seen to have been misleading to the market." Kevin assured the jury that he

Questioned about £1m worth of shares in the Israeli company Scitex, which the prosecution alleges belong to the pensioners, he insisted he had seen an amended document in which the beneficial ownership of the shares was transferred to the

Robert Maxwell Group (RMG). He said his father showed him the amended document in his office and he believed that Bishopsgate Investment Management, which administered the pension fund, had transferred the beneficial ownership to RMG.

The publisher's youngest son said he only saw the document

cepted what he was told about it. Mr Suckling said: "Why? It stank, didn't it?"

In an angry outburst, Kevin Maxwell accused him of using an emotive word, saying it was easy to say that with the benefit of hindsight after the crash.
He went on: "I had implicit faith in my father and I trusted him. I had years of experience of working with him, of his methods, that included trans-

actions involving pension fund assets. It was the ordinary course of business for him and I accepted it."

it. Mr Maxwell?"

Kevin Maxwell: "Mr Suckling, you have to say that, My nce has not changed for years. I saw the amended agreement. I believe it was valid."

He raised his voice in anger when Mr Suckling asked him what had happened to the document. "I can't believe you are asking me that question. We have been denied access to the papers. We have looked everywhere we have been allowed to."

He accused the prosecution and the Serious Fraud Office of denying him and his defence

Earlier, Kevin had told the jury he did not consider the pension fund had been in any way put at risk over the Scitex deal. When Mr Suckling suggest-ed that any independent pension fund manager would have had to have lost his senses, or

He said that although in 1991, when the shares were sold, RMG was facing liquidity problems and was in "choppy water", it was not in bad shape because it had assets

briefly at a late-night meeting. Mr Suckling said: "This team access to all the docu-in his father's office, but ac- meeting never took place, did ments."

Worth many millions of pounds.

Answering Mr Suckling's second, consider we were jeopardising the ability to pay pensions? Absolutely not."

In another angry exchange, Kevin said: "I am telling a consistent story which is the truth. You are a prosecutor who wants been dishonest, to hand over the to send me to fail and you want shares to RMG. Kevin disme to say something different

Lam not going to help you."

Kevin, his brother Ian, and former Maxwell financial adviser Larry Trachtenberg deny conspiracy to defraud the pen-

Vote of confidence in future of rubbish-to-power brokers

The Government is investing in new technology to help meet energy needs

NICHOLAS SCHOON Environment Correspondent

A boost for renewable energy, including wind farms and electricity-generating waste incinerators, was announced by the Government yesterday.

Bids will be sought from the private sector for a further 500 megawatts of electrical power to be provided by non-fossil fuel and non-nuclear sources. This is equivalent to about half the output of a large, conventional power station.

The companies whose bids succeed will be guaranteed a stable price for their electricity for 15 years, set above today's market price for power. This renewables subsidy is paid for by electricity consumers, and it adds just over one per cent to

The winning projects picked by the Government will be those which demand the lowest subsidy and succeed in convincing the Department of Trade and Industry that they have sound prospects of financial backing. Bids will be invited from next month but the winners - expected to number around 100 - will not be announced until 1997.

This is the fourth time the Government has staged such an auction and it is leading to a rapid expansion in UK renewable energy. The first wind farm opened four years ago in

of them, with about 500 electricity-generating turbines. Yet they still generate little more than one thousandth of

Britain's power. But the form of renewable energy which has expanded most rapidly is the use of in-flammable methane gas, gen-erated by rotting rubbish in landfill tips. Collected in a network of perforated pipes buried in the waste, the gas is then used to fuel engines attached to electricity generators.

For the first time, some of the subsidy contracts in this auction round will be awarded to combined heat and power projects - power stations which also provide hot water and space heating for thousands of nearby homes and businesses via underground hot water pipes. These are expected to take

the form of three or four large municipal rubbish incinerators. If they provide heat as well as electricity, they can work much more efficiently and convert far more of the energy in the rubbish into a useful product. The Government set up the

subsidy scheme for renewables because they cause either no pollution or much less than fossil fuels and they give Britain a greater diversity of energy sup-plies. Its target is for 1,500 megawatts of new renewables to be installed by the year 2000, in addition to the 1,500 megawatts of hydroelectric power schemes



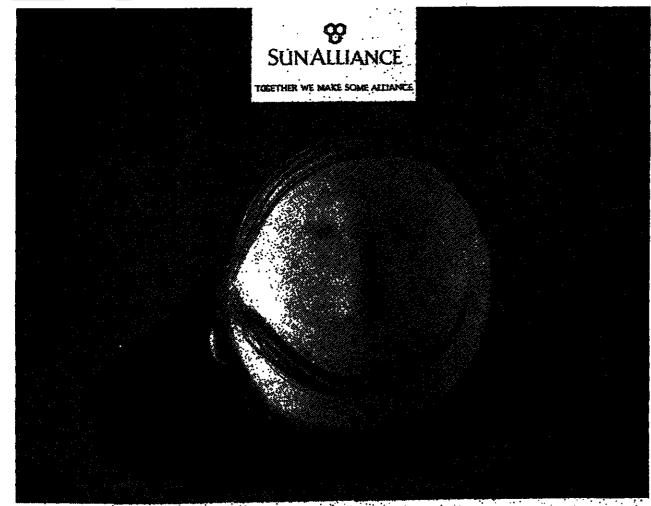
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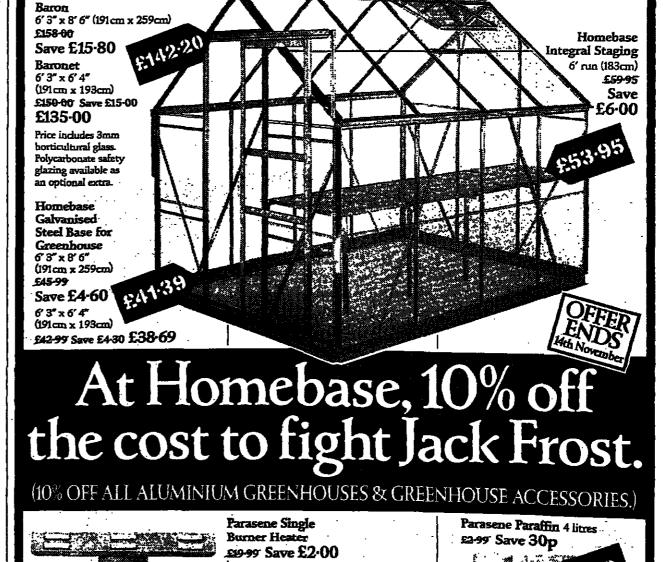
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Home Office ban: Despite a court victory, the controversial cleric disappoints his followers in face of Howard's opposition

Moonies' leader cancels his visit to Britain

DANNY PENMAN

The Moonies founder, Reverend Sun Myung Moon, ves-terday cancelled his visit to Britain after the Home Secretary refused to lift a ban on his entry to the UK

On Wednesday, the Unification Church won a legal victory over Michael Howard, when the High Court ordered him to reconsider the block on Mr Moon's visit

But Mr Howard, speaking on BBC Radio 4's Today programme yesterday, ruled out lifting the ban.

The Home Secretary said: The ban is still in force. The ban has not been set aside. I do not intend to set it aside." The Home Office said it was quite happy to receive a fresh application from Mr Moon, but added: "We do not intend to set the ban aside."

The apparent refusal by the Home Office to reconsider the ban has angered the church's leaders. Mark Brann, president of its UK branch, said: "We regard it as a very serious matter when you have a Home Secretary who says he's the guardian of the law and then goes ahead and effectively dis-Mr Moon was due to arrive

vice for 1,200 followers in central London tomorrow. The church claims 700 followers in the UK and about 4m world-

in Britain today and hold a ser-

Members of the church claim





In the name of the father: Rev Sun Myung Moon (left) and his worldwide church believe followers should take part in in mass 'arranged marriage' ceremonies, at which he and his wife officiate

Confucianism and Buddhism are both incorporated into its teachings. It has been the target of allegations that it has broken up families and also that it has "brain-washed" followers. to be Christian, but elements of Home Office statistics paint a

different picture and show that few of those initially attracted to the church join it, and that 90 per cent of those who do join leave within two years.

Mr Moon is the central figure of the church and his ex-

clusion will prove a deep disappointment to his followers. Mr Brann said: "If you regard someone as your spiritual

leader and inspiration, then it's a great disappointment if he's

terfere with religious freedom. He's our Secretary of State as well - not just the Secretary of State for Mail on Sunday or Daily Mail readers.

The Moonies are now plan-

"Mr Howard should not in-

ning to try and build a more persuasive case over the coming weeks in an attempt to persuade the Home Secretary to grant Mr Moon an entry visa.

Mr Brann said members of the church were planning to re-

cruit "Nobel Laureates and statesmen to their cause" He also dismissed the allegations used by the Home Secretary to justify the refusal of an

entry visa to Mr Moon. "It's certainly unfortunate

that the church in its immaturity experienced a number of mistakes and that is entirely regrettable. Unfortunately, that reflects badly on our founder, who never had any intention of

NHS chief attacks bleak prediction of future cost

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor

Alan Langlands, the NHS chief executive, yesterday attacked the "gloom and doom" view that the NHS cannot be afforded and that both rationing and privatisation of the health service

In a straightforward rebuke to Sir Duncan Nichol, his predecessor, and Rodney Walker. the outgoing chair of the NHS Trust Federation, Mr Langands said he wanted to "distance himself" from what he

dubbed the "ration-and-privatise brigade". Launching the NHS annual

report, Mr Langlands said there would always be a gap between everything the NHS might wish to do and what was possible. Choices had to be made and setting priorities was "a fact of life". But that reality was "neither

new nor peculiar to the health service". He did not find the arguments in Sir Duncan's. Healthcare 2000 report "terribly convincing", and accused Mr Walker of appearing to "talk up some sort of immediate crisis". The NHS was under "significant pressure", Mr Langlands said,

but the service was coping, with good ideas about changing the way things are done." The pressures of an ageing population, medical advance and heightened expectations were not new, Mr Langlands said, "and the NHS has been responding to them successfully

for many years". Over the next five to 10 years, the population "is not Free. Telephone 0800 555 777.

ageing at a pace that we won't he able to cope" given the real terms growth the NHS has been promised. The numbers of people over 85 - whose care on average costs 10 times as much annually as those aged 16 to 44 - were set to rise from only 1.6 per cent of the population to 2.1 per cent between 1990 and

There were problems over expensive new drugs, but other advances such as minimally invasive surgery and the possible development of artif bone saved money.

His comments came as Stephen Dorrell, the Secretary of State for Health, praised the for shifting its contracts for breast surgery to six named consultants whose results provided a 10 per cent better survival rate. It has also restricted treatment of testicular cancer to one hospital with and more successful treatment.

NHS Annual Report 1994/5.



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Young women tell of attacks by Fred West

Rosemary West trial: Witnesses describe builder's terrifying stalking tactics

WILL BENNETT

Frederick West drove around alone following and sometimes assaulting girls and young women, Winchester Crown

Court was told yesterday. Seven women said that they recognised Mr West as the man who had followed or attacked them on his own when his photograph appeared in the media after his arrest last year.

Another witness said that on several occasions he had seen Mr West sitting in a car with Mary Bastholm, who disappeared in Gloucester in 1968.

Mr West's widow Rosemary, 41, denies murdering 10 girls and young women whose remains were found at their house at 25 Cromwell Street, Gloucester, and at their previous home in the city. Her husband, who was charged with 12 murders, was found dead in his prison cell on 1 January this year.

Mrs West has told the court that she was not involved in the

Yesterday a witness described in court as Mrs C said that she was picked up by Mr West when she was hitch-hiking in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, in 1966. Shortly afterwards he turned off the main road.

Mrs C said: "He pulled into a lane. He grabbed my body. I can't remember the precise de-tails but it was a sexual and physical attack. He told me to take

my knickers off.

"I managed to get halfway out of the car and he had his arm around my throat dragging me back into the car."

She remained fully dressed and Mr West masturbated in front of her. Afterwards she said he was "very charming, pleasant and joking" and took her back into Cheltenham.

Janette Clarke wept as she told the court that she had been terrified when she had twice been followed by a man in Gloucestershire in 1966. When shown a photograph of Mr West in court she said: "Ob God, that's the one.'

near Stroud, Gloucestershire, in Alison Clinton described how she had been attacked by 1975 and who last year she recognised as Mr West. a man in 1968 when she was 13.

She said: "He became more She said: "He grabbed my wrist. and more violent, punching me I got free and ran to the nearest house." Twenty six years latin the abdomen several times. er she recognised Mr West's Somehow I don't know how I managed to escape." face on television after his ar-

A woman referred to only as Mrs D said in a statement that Caroline Langman said in a statement that in 1972 when she she had recognised Mr West on television last year as the man was 16 she was repeatedly followed by a blue van as she cy-cled home from school in who had masturbated in front of her and then assaulted her in Gloucester and that she later re-Gioucester in 1975. ceived an obscene telephone Vincent Oakes said in a state-

by a man who gave her a lift

ment that he had seen Mr West call. When she saw Mr West's photograph last year she "went in a car with Mary Bastholm very cold and felt very strange". who disappeared in Gloucester Julie Coulson described in a in January 1968 on four or five statement how she was attacked occasions. He knew Mary, who was a neighbour, but did not recognise Mr West until after his in Towkesbury, Gloucestershire, in 1975 aged 15. She said: "The man grabbed hold of my arm and tried to pull me into the car.

arrest last year.
The last time Mr Oakes saw them together was just before Christmas shortly before Mary I managed to get away and ran vanished. Nobody has ever been A statement from Theresa Davies was read out in which charged in connection with her she said that she was assaulted



Janette Clarke: Told Winchester Crown Court she had twice been followed by Fred West. .

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Memoirs deal is 'repulsive', says Mackay

MARIANNE MACDONALD Arts Reporter

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay, yesterday said the con-troversial decision by the Official Solicitor to sell Fred West's police interviews and memoirs was "repulsive".

In a separate development, the Chief Constable of Gloucestershire police, Tony Butler. also made clear his anger. He said that the deal, apparently done without his consent, raised issues of grave public con-

Their comments follow an admission by the Prime Minister two weeks ago that he felt "extreme distaste" for the hiography brokered by the Offi-Hodder Headline for a six-fig-

Lord Mackay revealed his repugnance to Douglas French. the Conservative MP for Gloucester, who wants the book stopped. Mr French said: "The Lord Chancellor shares the public view that the sale is a most distasteful exercise. He described it as 'repulsive'. But he also said the Official Solicitor was probably acting within his powers.

Mr Harris commissioned the biography, to be written by Geoffrey Wansell and published next year, after West hanged himself in a Birmingham prison on New Year's Day while awaiting trial on 12 charges of mur-

The move raised a storm of protest and highlighted the le-gal loophole by which families of alleged criminals, particularly those who have died, can profit from their apparent mis-

Mr Harris claims that as ex-

ecutor of West's estate, which includes 25 Cromwell Street, 132 tapes of police interviews, and West's autobiography. I

But in his first statement on the subject, Mr Butler vesterday made public his disapproval of

Was Loved By An Angel. he was

obliged to maximise its profits by commissioning the biogra-

the deal. He said: "The use by an author of material produced by Gloucestershire constabulary in the course of a criminal investigation, without the express authority of the constabulary, raises a number of issues of grave public concern.

"It goes without saving that there are important issues of cial Solicitor, Peter Harris, with confidentiality and I would not wish this proposal to be intergestion that information they provide to us in the course of an investigation could subsequently find its way into a

> Mr Butler added that he was seeking urgent legal advice whether such material, made available to prepare a defendant's case, could be used for "any other purpose that the accused person or their legal representative sees fit".

The legal questions high-lighted by the deal are also to be pursued by Mr French, who has been urged by Lord Mackay to discuss them with the Home Secretary, Michael Howard.

"The Lord Chancellor has invited me to come forward with some proposals, which could be put in a private member's bill or taken up the Government, to stop this happening in future. Clearly he would be sympathetic to that," the MP added.

DAILY POEM

The Send-Off

By Wilfred Owen

Down the close, darkening lanes they sang their way To the siding-shed, And lined the train with faces grimly gay.

Their breasts were stuck all white with wreath and spray As men's are, dead.

Dull porters watched them, and a casual tramp Stood staring hard, Sorry to miss them from the upland camp. Then, unmoved, signals nodded, and a lamp Winked to the guard.

So secretly, like wrongs hushed-up, they went, They were not ours: We never heard to which front these were sent

Nor there if they yet mock what women meant Who gave them flowers.

Shall they return to beatings of great bells In wild train-loads? A few, a few, too few for drums and yells, May creep back, silent, to still village wells Up half-known roads.

Wilfred Owen was killed in battle on 4 November 1918, at the age of 25, seven days before the end of the First World War writes Catherine Barraclough. The "war poems" were written between January 1917 and November 1918, and although only four were published in his lifetime, he has since been recognised as one of the major poets of the century. His verse, impassioned expressions of the 'pity of war', had a rich musicality in advance of anything achieved by his peers. But his mature contribution to English poetry, and the promise of his ability to speak for a generation torn apart by war was never to be fulfilled. His death left a lamentable gap. A friend wrote in the 1950s: "I have found many letters lately of Wilfred Owen's, and looking back over the time since the last war, I see how much easier all our lives would have been if he had lived."

The War Poems of Wilfred Owen are published by Chatto at £4.99.



Recipe for disaster: High-fat, high-sugar food inflicted on children is 'storing up a timebomb' of disease School dinners 'can damage your health'

GLENDA COOPER

School dinners are bad for your health, according to the National Heart Forum (NHF). Too many secondary schools are providing meals that are high in fat and sugar and are putting children at risk of developing heart disease.

While children in the past grumbled about cannonball peas or wallpaper-paste mashed potatoes, today's children have an "appalling diet, high in consumption of the three C's: crisps, chips and confectionery" according to the NHF, which works to reduce levels of coronary heart disease. It is today launching a computer programme, the School Meals Assessment Pack (SMAP) to monitor and calculate the nu-

tritional value of school meals. Children get a third of their energy from school meals, but despite government health strategies there has been no improvement in the diets of school children for 10 years. They typically eat food that is high in fat, high in sugar but low in fibre. calcium and iron. On average they eat chips at school three times a week.

The forum believes that the state of school meals, which are eaten by 45 per cent of children. has suffered because nutritional standards were abolished in 1980. This was exacerbated by the introduction of compulsory competitive tendering in 1988, which forced schools to put their catering service out to tender. This encouraged caterers to rely more on preprepared food and sugary snacks to cut

SMAr consists of a user's guide for caterers in developing healthy menus and a teacher's pack for classroom use.

In pilot studies, SMAP found that 46 per cent of calories in school meals came from fat, compared with the Government recommended maximum of 35 per cent.

NHF chairman and leading cardiologist Professor Desmond Julian warned: "Coronary heart disease is the UK's single largest cause of premature death and the seeds of the disease are sown in childhood. It has been estimated that 30 per cent of deaths unhealthy diet. If we do not tackle this now, any progress this na-

our high rates of coronary heart school meals service. While idedisease will be reversed next century when the children of today occome adults."

countries have seen the rate fall far faster. Imogen Sharp, director of NHF, said the Government's also ensure adequate financial Health of the Nation targets

Coronary heart disease is

the leading cause of death in the

UK, with over 170,000 deaths

annually. Although rates of the

disease in men aged 35 to 74

dropped 24 per cent between

1980 and 1990, other developed

ally national nutritional standards would be reintroduced, she said that in the world of the "contract culture", local education authorities should insist that specific nutritional guidelines be included in all school catering contracts. All school food, including school meals, vending machines, tuck shops and playground vans should be given an annual health audit. The Department for Education should

support for school meals.
"Pupils and school gover-

ing the health value of their school meals service and parents need to be sure they are paying for nutritions school meals, she said. "About 4 million school lunches are served everyday yet there is little in the way of quality assurance for the service."

A 1994 report by NHF found that the average teenager con-sumes four packets of crisps, six cans of fizzy drinks, seven bars of chocolate, three bags of chips and seven puddings each week while eating only one seventh of the recommended intake of fruit and vegetables.

healthy diet can influence the development of dental disease, bowel disorders, nutritional anaemia and obesity. The number of obese children is estimated to have doubled between 1980 and 1990.

"The school meals service was developed at the beginning of this century to improve children's poor health," said Maggie Sanderson, of the British Dietetic Association. "The diseases may have changed but the question of diet-related ill health remains. Work on the diets of children in the next mil-

Healthy menu

Lamb & Mushroom Pie Beef Curry & Brown Rice Been and Cauliflower Bake Tomato & Cheese Pizza

Jacket Potatoes Cabbage Mixed Salad Grated Carrot Tomato & Cucumber **Baked Apples** Fruit Yoghurt Crunchy Bars

Unhealthy menu

Battered Fish Beefburger and Bap **Baked Sausages** Hot Dogs Creamed Potato

Photograph: Geraint Lewin

Potato Waffles **Baked Beans** Chips Roast Potatoes Apple Crumble and Custard

Lemon Meringue

Chocolate Crispies

Doughnuts

Bulimia article doctors cleared

Three doctors were vesterday found guilty of identifying a bulimia sufferer with a history of self-mutilation in a medical iournal. But they were found not guilty of serious professional misconduct after deliberations lasting more than two hours at the General Medical Council in London.

Dr John Eagles of Binghill Park, Milltimber, Aberdeen. and Dr Jon Parkin, whose address was given as the Royal Cornhill Hospital. Aberdeen. had been accused of disclosing information in the paper about the condition of a nationt, identified to the hearing as Ms C. without her informed consent and in such a way as to enable her to be identified.

Dr Alastair Palin, now of Noel Road, Islington, north London, was accused of providing information for the paper without obtaining Ms C's informed consent and in such a way as to enable her to be identified. He had been Ms C's psychiatrist.

Adrian Whitfield QC, representing Dr Eagles and Dr Parkin, the authors of the paper about 26-year-old Ms C, had told the hearing the article was not gratuitous or unreasonable and was an important contri-

bution to an important topic.

Mr Whitfield argued that doctors doing research, espe-cially in the field of psychiatry. faced inevitable dilemmas about how much detail of individual cases to give.

Simon Taylor, representing Dr Palin, said the committee had heard different versions of the meeting between his client and Ms C, where she is said to have consented to be interviewed by Dr Parkin for the suggested paper Blood-letting in Bulimia Nervosa.

He asked the committee to accept evidence from Ms C's key worker at the time, Mrs Sally Hill, that Ms C had consent-

ed and was capable of doing so. The doctors declined to comment on the outcome, but said: "We are naturally relieved that the GMC has found on the evidence none of us were guilty of misconduct and our duty of confidentiality remains. All we wish to say is that we regret any distress which has been caused to



Food for thought: A youngster at Hotham Junior School, Putney, west London, tucks into his school dinner

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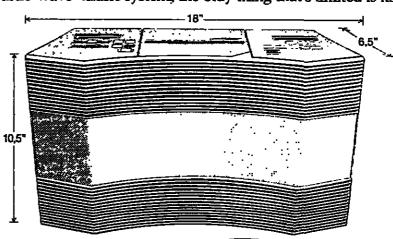
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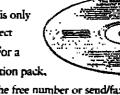
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UK to looks after a record

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Selling Britain abroad: Industry faces increased challenges as soaring revenue disguises nation's loss of share in world market

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UK tourism looks east after £10bn record year

JOJO MOYES

Britain is playing host to record numbers of tourists, who are spending increasing amounts. But unless it can tap into the new tourism markets, its share of international receipts will continue to slide - last year it fell 2 per cent, equivalent to a loss of £4bn.

According to the British Tourist Authority (BTA), a 39 per cent rise in Eastern European tourists and a 14 per cent rise in the amount spent by Asian visitors helped increase tourist revenue to a record £10bn last year.

Most of this was spent on hotels (36.1 per cent) and shopping (24.5 per cent) with a further £2m spent on cating out.

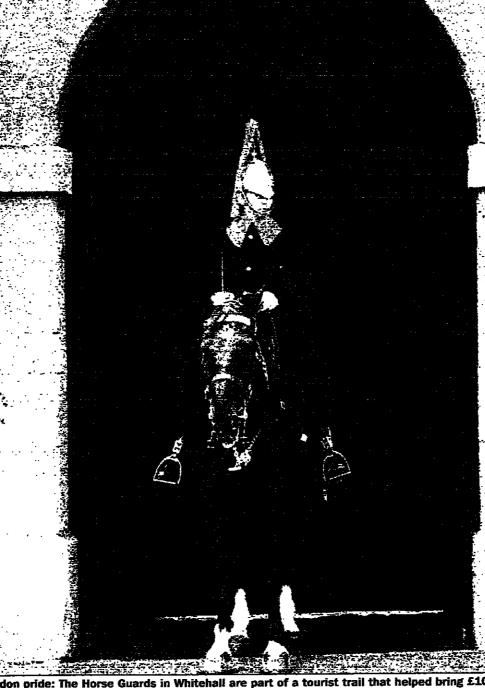
At the launch of its annual report yesterday it said Britain's tourist industry now employs 1.5 million people and is a large and

growing proportion of GDP. amounting to 5 per cent of export earnings.

According to Adele Biss, chairman of the BTA, it is also the right kind of export as it does not absorb a high proportion of imported raw materials and is spread geographically and economically throughout the country.

But she warned vesterday that if Britain were to halt its gradual slide in worldwide share of tourism receipts, it needed to lure new visitors from a mushrooming selection of alternative destinations and capitalise on its reputations for both tradition and youth culture.

"Tourism is expected to be the world's largest industry by the year 2000, but sustaining Britain's share of this huge growth industry will not be easy." said Ms Biss.



London pride: The Horse Guards in Whitehall are part of a tourist trail that helped bring £10bn to Britain last year

stronger presence in new markets such as Korea, Taiwan. Thailand and Malaysia where international travel is growing at three times the world average."

According to Anthony Sell, the BTA's chief executive, the lowering of Britain's world

the BTA ought to establish a of the rest of the world. To address this and capitalise on the burgeoning Asian market, he said the BTA had undertaken a number of surveys to examine how other nationalities viewed Britain, and how they chose their holiday destination.

According to one, the Japanshare has occurred primarily be- ese saw the average British cause the British economy has couple as 50-year-old beefnot been growing as fast as those eating "squares" who were ob- ined their own country." Mr Sell

sessed with politics and sticklers for punctuality. British lifestyles were considered "simple", "plain" and "solid" and de-scribed by the colours grey and brown. But they were impressed

with the scenery. "Some Japanese visitors said they wanted to go to sleep for an afternoon in Hyde Park. They considered they had ru-

said. "Others said they wanted to go walking around the London suburbs and look at people's gardens - because that was something they didn't have at home."

Peter Rabbit was also a popular draw, with many Japanese citing the Beatrix Potter books as their introduction to the English language and subsequently choosing Cumbria as a

holiday destination. But cultivating London's image as a city for hip young people has also been a success. As London emerges once more on to the cutting edge of fashion and popular music, the tourist authority finds that the Asian youth market is increasingly

interested in Britain - and increasingly lucrative. "By the year 2000, the aver-

age age in Asia is going to be 23. That's a fast-growing market. So in Hong Kong we conducted a campaign with Virgin with the Cantonese star Faye Wong dressed up as a Beefeater," said Mr Scll.

"The campaign ran for three months this summer and cost us £60,000. The 2,900 extra visitors this brought us generated an ex-



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Children at risk: Psychiatrist warns of need to curb widespread participation of under-16s to prevent dependency in later life

Lottery 'breeding generation of gamblers'

LIZ HUNT Health Editor

A generation of children is being turned on to gambling by the National Lottery with the connivance of the promoters, broadcasters and retailers, a leading psychiatrist has warned.

Preliminary results of the first survey of under-16s found that almost two-thirds had bought lottery tickets although it is against the law for retailers to sell to this age group. The percentage of under-age lottery players mirrors the overall participation rate.

Dr Emmanuel Moran, chairman of the National Council on Gambling, is calling for the lottery weekly draw to be shown after the 9pm watershed. "This is not family entertainment, it is gambling and gambling is for adults," he said yesterday.

Dr Moran also argues that tickets and instant scratch cards should be sold from licensed premises only, to reinforce the exclusion of children from gambling activities.

He says the hype surrounding the weekly broadcasting of the draw, the widespread sale of tickets to those under-age, and the heavy promotion of scratch cards alongside the sweet counter in some shops, could lead to gambling dependence in later life for vulnerable children.

Dr Moran's comments echo those of senior representatives of the main churches who last week attacked the lottery for "undermining public culture and damaging society", and called for the minimum age for playing to be raised to 18. The Council of Churches for Britain and Ireland also urged that no more licences for instant scratch cards be issued, and the size of jackpots to be limited to £1m.

Society's consensus that gambling is an adult activity has been broken by the introduction of the National Lottery and the sale of tickets from ordinary retail outlets. Dr Moran says in a letter to be published in tomorrow's issue of the British Medical Journal. Small regular pay-outs and huge publicity for the big winners reinforced the

for the future. My experience is could be seeing addiction



Hands on: More than 60 per cent of children aged 10-15 have evaded legal restrictions and bought lottery tickets

quoted PC Direct. Computer Buyer summed it up

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only other form of gambling that is allowed outside licensed premises - as children are now presenting in their twenties with serious gambling problems. We are paying the price for that. The same danger ap-

plies to the lottery." Dr Moran added: "Addiction tends to develop over months or years and is driven by habit. The lottery is only a year old. "We are storing up problems In another year or two, we

scratch cards, with their promise of immediate riches, were a greater risk than the weekly draw for children because they had many of the features of "hard gaming, with large jackpots and 'heart stoppers' giving the illusion that the person has

almost won a big prize".

A total of 187 children at a mixed-sex comprehensive of tickets and cards to children school took part in the survey, carried out by Dr Moran, a con-Dr Moran said that instant lands Priory Hospital, north

London. It found that 114 (61 per cent) had bought tickets. Dr Moran also points out in his letter to the BMJ that a survey carlier this year found that the weekly draw was the second most popular television programme among children aged 10 to 15.

Another survey has suggested that the prohibition on sales is unenforceable, with 62 per cent of outlets reported to sell

ability and promotion of gambling facilities are important in the causation of pathological gambling. Before the introduction of the National Lottery, public policy under successive governments, including the pre-

sent one, allowed gambling only to the extent needed to meet unstimulated demand. However, the lottery has been promoted vigorously and this has involved children

Photograph: Philip Meech

Effect on economy, page 23

Teenagers who forget age limits for an instant

CLARE GARNER

Under-age schoolchildren at London's Parliament Hill School regularly stake at least half their weekly pocket money on the National Lottery, it was claimed yesterday.

Thirteen-year-olds at the all girls school in north-west London pass themselves off as 16year-olds to shopkeepers if challenged about their age. None of them have been told to produce ID, they claim.

They do ask my age at sweet shops but I just lie and they give it to me because they want the money," said one 13-year-old who on average spends half of her £10 pocket money on the lottery.

And would she consider herself addicted to the lottery? "No way Jose." she said. "It's just a bit of fun. isn't it?"

Another 13-year-old at the school said: "I think it's great because you get the chance to win lots of money for just £1." Some weeks she spends all of her £10 pocket money on the lottery.

Getting her hands on the tickets is not a problem. "I just ask shopkeepers and they let me buy them. I keep saying that my mum is outside the shop but she

Others ask their parents to buy the tickets for them. For one girl, also 13, it is her father's frequent winning that convinces her that the lottery is a profitable business. "I buy a scratch card each week and my dad gets me a lottery ticket. I've never won but my dad always wins

Ever since it began, the lottery has been a topic of conalthough losing is something to keep quiet about, the girls said. "If you win you talk about it, but if you don't, you shut up," explained one girl.

It is a subject which divides the class. One 14-year-old girl from the same year as the others takes a firm stand against the lottery. "I don't bother wasting my time and money on it. My parents don't agree with it either. Our class is split into people who do and people who don't play it."

Two shops within 200 yards of Parliament Hill School sell lottery tickets. Both are conscious of the need to prevent

under-age sales. Harish Patel, 28, a partner at Twin Peaks supermarket which sells lottery tickets and Instants, said: "If there is any doubt, we ask for proof that they are 16. We don't accept national insurance cards because there is no photo." He said parents were the real problem. "You get parents coming in with their kids and the kids scratch off the cards in the shop," he said. Anil Patel, 40, manager of

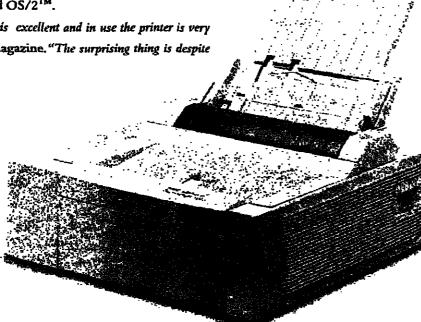
Parliament Hill News, which only sells Lukey Lotto cards finds it necessary to challenge a couple of children a week. "Ninety nine per cent of the kids know exactly that they are not going to get served lottery tickets, eigarettes, or anything else like that in this shop."

This may explain why most of the schoolchildren at the school tend to purchase their tickets on

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JOHN RENTOUL Political Correspondent

The Government put a brave face yesterday on the underpowered launch of its pilot scheme for nursery-school vouchers, as Labour seized on its admission that parents with vouchers would not be guaran-

teed a school place.
Robin Squire, the education minister, admitted to "sadness" that only three local councils were committed to the scheme. But he said: "My disappointment is nothing compared to the parents of four-year-olds who next year will not have nursery provision but who could have ... if their local authority had decided to participate."

He blamed "party political in-fluence" for the refusal of Labour councils to take part in the pilot first year of the scheme. After this year's local elections, only a handful of education authorities are Conservative-controlled and three Westminster,

Wandsworth, and Kensington and Chelsea, all in London, have agreed to take part. Labour and Liberal Democratcontrolled Norfolk County Council has also agreed "in

principle", but is arguing about whether it is allowed to borrow

against future voucher income. The four boroughs are estimated to contain 3 per cent of

the 150,000 four-year-olds presently not at nursery school fewer than one-third of the Government's original target of 10 per cent for its pilot. Vouchers worth £1,100 each

will be delivered to the parents of an estimated 15,600 fouryear-olds within three months, Mr Squire announced yesterday. About 4.500 of them will go to children who do not presently have a nursery place.

Estelle Morris, Labour education spokeswoman, drew attention to the small print of a briefing note issued by the Department for Education which says there is "no east-iron guarantee of a place, at least in the first instance, until new places are introduced in response to parent demand",

She contrasted this with the Prime Minister's speech to the Conservative conference 1994, when he gave a "cast-iron commitment" - although he did not say when. Ms Morris said the scheme was "unravelling at the

But Mr Squire confirmed the scheme is to go ahead.

that the scheme will be extended to all four-year-olds in 1997, with parents expected to received their vouchers before the last date for the general election in May that year.

When fully in operation, the scheme would cost more than £700m to run - £165m in new money and the rest clawed back from local authorities. The administration of the full scheme is expected to cost £20m. Officials said the cost of the first phase in the four local authorities would be £22m -£5m of which would be spent on

Ms Morris said £5m "could provide 8,000 extra part-time nursery places for three year-olds". She added: "There is no new money for capital spending or teacher training."

that Capita Managed Services had won the contract to administer the first phase of the scheme. But he refused to give the value of the contract, claim ing the information was commercially sensitive.

And there was no figure available either for the cost of a publicity campaign which will operate in the four areas where

inspection and administration.

Mr Squire also announced

should "go for skinheads, football hooligans as well as the traditional targets of narcotics and

terrorism' Mr Agee became a hero of the left in the 1970s after publishing details of CIA subversion operations. He was allowed to work on his book under the Heath government, but alleges Merlyn Rees, then home secretary, and James Callaghan,

the prime minister, acted after pressure by Henry Kissinger, the

Mr Agee was told "out of the

as the "the most dangerous man in Britain, but the Home Secretary appears to have decided that after 17 years, his secrets no longer carry a threat. However, Mr Agee said that the banning order may have been Tam Dalyell, the veteran campaigned against his expul-Labour campaigner, said he sion. "I can only say that the would be asking the Home Sec-proverbial smoke came out of pendent from US influence. lifted because Conservative governments are more inde-



man urges surveillance of racists

The former CLA officer, Philip Agee, yesterday called on a future Labour home secretary to use the security and intelligence services to combat racism and neo-fascist groups in Britain, writes Colin Brown.

Mr Agee, who was expelled from Britain by the then Labour government in 1977 after pressure from the US Nixon gov-ernment, said MI6 and MI5 US Secretary of State.

bridge: Philip Agee, back in Britain after being banned for 17 years, at the Commons yesterday

blue" in August that the banning order preventing him from visiting Britain had been lifted after 17 years by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary.

retary why he had decided to lift the ban. "Could it be partly he thinks this might stir up trouble in the Opposition party?" Mr Dalyell asked. The MP said he had invited Lord Rees to the meeting at the Commons with Mr Agee, hosted by Tribune, the paper of the Labour left which

his nostrils," Mr Dalyell said. Mr Agee was once described

Major at bay as Commons senses defeat over Nolan

Tohn Major was forced on to the defensive at Question Time yesterday as Labour berated him for going back on his word and refusing to back

full disclosure of MPs earnings. Though the Prime Minister argued that a ban on paid advocacy went beyond Lord Nolan's recommendations, it made little impact on a House that senses he is heading for defeat on the issue next Monday.

After a succession of Question Times in which Mr Major has dominated the exchanges, the determination of his backbenchers to keep secret their earnings from consultancies has handed the initiative to asked why, if disclosure of earnings was so unimportant, up to 100 Tory MPs were threatening

Inside Parliament | Stephen

Goodwin

to resign if they were forced to share that information with their constituencies.

Opening the exchanges, Angela Eagle, MP for Wallasey, in the newspapers, Mr Major emphasised that he had set up the committee on standards in public life because he believed that there was a problem that needed to be looked at dispas-

> The [Tory-controlled] select committee that considered Lord Nolan's report had actually gone further by calling for a ban on MPs acting as paid ad-But Tony Blair asked why

having set up the Nolan committee and having agreed to implement its report, Mr Major and other ministers were going than Nolan on the 10th. to vote against its key recom-

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est requirement that MPs who have outside financial interests connected with their being MPs should disclose the amount of money they earn from them. Just what do he and his party have to hide?" Mr Major said he had made

clear throughout that he supported the "broad thrust" of Lord Nolan's recommendations. Nolan had made 55 recommendations, 45 of the them were to the Government, almost all of which had been implemented. Of the 10 addressed to MPs, the select committee had accepted nine and gone further

the Prime Minister insisted. "But if we do that, the income that MPs earn from other activities, explicitly approved by Parliament, seems to me to be a matter between them an the Inland Revenue inspectors.

Roared on by his backbenchers, the Labour leader said: "This is nothing to do with some detailed consideration of their interests. It's to do with the squalid, monied interests of the Conservative Party.

"That was their key recommendation and if now, in weakness, Mr Major goes back on his word to implement the report he commissioned, it will leave The most important thing a stain on his prime ministership ment that will

not be removed until this rot- statements on their behalf as he ten administration is swept from office."

Hitting back at what he called a "short-term, party political rant", Mr Major said it was a "shame" the Labour leader could not understand that disclosure was a very serious matter for Parliament with very long-term implications.

"I do not favour a wholly professional House staffed entirely by honourable members who are professional politicians and nothing else. That is the route that Mr Blair and his party would wish to lead us down. He would then, no doubt, have his party thought police telling did last week." Rising to the despatch box for

a third time, Mr Blair pointed out that Nolan was not stopping people having outside interests. "It simply says we should be open and honest about them. "Mr Major is a man saying today what he knows to be wrong.

And the question for him is: when is he going to have the courage to stand up to his party and tell them what is right?" Tom King, the former de-

fence secretary and a member of Nolan committee, came to Mr Major's aid, lauding the advocacy ban as going to the heart of the issue of public

But the backbenchers who want to keep their earnings secret remained silent. Other Tory questioners steered well clear, with congratulatory dollies on the lottery and GP fundholders and a blast at the judiciary over the Rev Sun

Myung Moon. Labour allowed no let up. 'No one would accuse the Prime Minister of being a professional politician," taunted Tony Banks, while Gerry Sutcliffe left Mr Major floundering on the basic issue. Wasn't it true. asked the Bradford South MP. that if MPs act as consultants the public have a right to know whether they earn £50 or

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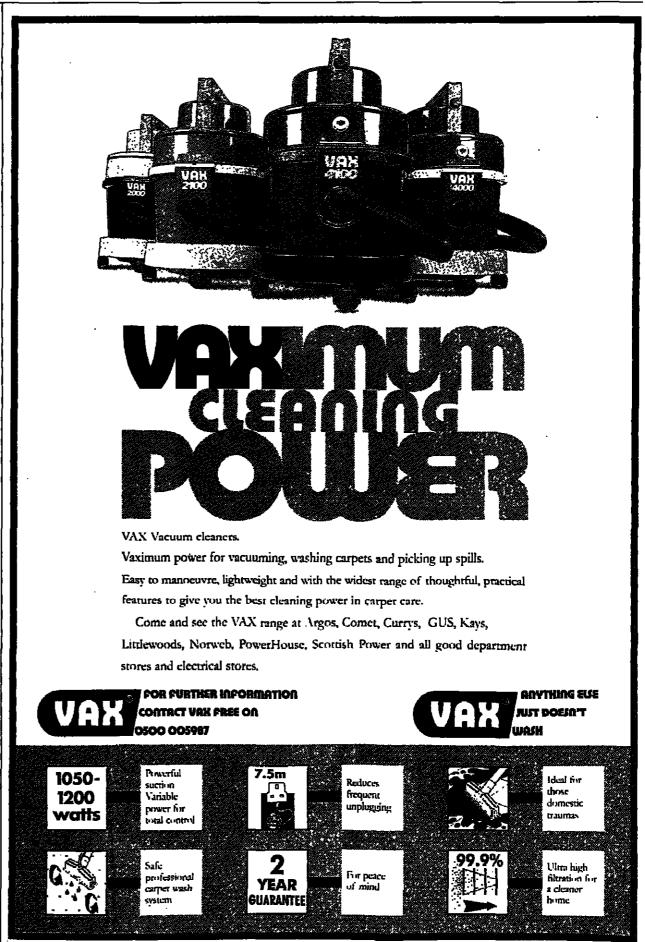
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French police arrest key Paris terrorists

MARY DEJEVSKY

The French Interior Ministry yesterday claimed a major breakthrough after police arrested an Algerian, said to have helped to "command and co-ordinate" recent bomb attacks in France, and three others allegedly preparing to plant a bomb in the northern

pronged operation carried out in districts of Paris, Lille and Lyons between Wednesday evening and Thursday morning. The arrests appear to link all the bomb attacks in the Paris and Lyons areas since July, and mark the first significant development in the case since a prime suspect. Khaled Kelkal, was shot dead by police near Lyons in September.

The anti-terrorist department, internal security forces and the intelligence services were all involved in yesterday's

police on "pre-empting an imminent criminal act which would have been especially murderous, because it was intended for one of Lille's biggest and most crowded markets."

According to Mr Debré, all the components needed to make a large bomb had been found at the home of Omar Allaoui, at Villeneuve-d'Ascq. The men were among 10 near Lille. They included "a people detained in a three-13kg gas cylinder, explosives. 13kg gas cylinder, explosives, nails, bolts, a fuse and a timing device, which were in every respect identical to those discovered at the scene of some carlier attacks"

Naming the Algerian arrested in Paris as Boualem Bensaid, Mr Debré said the 28-year-old had played "an active role in the command and co-ordination" of the networks responsible for the terrorist attacks attributed to the GLA (the Armed Islamic Group). The GIA, believed to be a loose alliance of fundamentalist groups which accuses France of trying to shore up

Louis Debré, congratulated the Algeria, made known its involvement last month through an Islamic newsletter.

Mr Debré claimed Mr Bensaid was on the point of giving the order for the Lille attack, adding: "He appears to be one of the pivots of this criminal enterprise ... and had connections with the Lyons group gathered around Kelkal and Koussa." Karim Koussa, who is recovering in hospital from injuries sustained in a shoot-out with police six weeks ago, has recently been extensively questioned by investigators.

Among the others named vere 25-year-old Naserdine Slimani, who was one of two people picked up in Vieux-en-Velin, near Lyons, the town where Kelkal lived, and Ali Ben Fatoum, who was detained in Lille and subsequently described by interior ministry sources as "a big catch".

Yesterday's arrests came in the nick of time for the French police and the Interior Ministry, which have faced mounting

The Interior Minister, Jean- the military-backed regime in criticism over their failure to halt the bomb attacks despite the two-month-old national security alert, named Vigipirate. Recent media comment has called into question both the cost and the usefulness of the exercise, which has put troops on the streets and alienated sections of the young immigrant population with frequent identity checks.

Yesterday, after several uncommunicative weeks, the Interior Ministry was only too happy to speak about what it felt was a finely targeted and highly successful operation. As if wering his critics, Mr Debré pointedly singled out "the minute attention to detail, patience, professionalism and great secrecy" which, he said, had been "the prerequisites for this success"

However, learning from his gaffe after Kelkal's death, when he had predicted the end of the attacks, he called for prudence and continued vigilance. "The threat remains," he said, "Vigipirate will continue,"



Fascinating Aida: Singers rehearsing Verdi's opera, which opened in Berlin last night Photograph: Lutz Schmidt/Reuter

Bosnia peace talks: Call for Mladic to answer to war crimes tribunal

Serb atrocities under spotlight

RUPERT CORNWELL Washington

Bosnian Serb atrocities moved quickly to the centre stage of the Bosnian peace talks yesterday, as both the Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, and Bosnia's President, Alija Izetbegovic, in effect demanded the departure of the two main Bosnian Serb leaders, both indicted for war crimes by an international tribunal.

As he left the Wright-Patterson Air Force base at Dayton, Ohio, where a news blackout has been in effect since the plenary opening session on Wednesday, Mr Christopher said Nato was unlikely to agree to police any settlement which left in place the Bosnian Serb political leader, Radovan Karadzic, and the top of the five-nation Contact military commander, General Group, attempt to strike a deal

considered to hold prime reponsibility for "ethnic cleansing" and massacres of Bosnian Muslim civilians, most notably after the fall of the Srebrenica "safe area" last summer and now around Banja Luka and Sanski Most.

Mr Izetbegovic was said on Wednesday to have told the Serbian President, Slobodan Milosevic, who speaks for the Bosnian Serb leadership at the peace conference, that Mr Karadzic and General Mladic must be handed over to the UN war crimes tribunal in The

These first indications give a clue to how difficult will be the negotiations ahead, as the leaders of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia, along with representatives of the five-nation Contact

Ratko Mladic. The two men are to end the bloodiest and most a symbolic agreement between destructive, war in Europe since 1945. Despite a "good start" to the discussions, "vast differences" remained, Mr Christo-

> Among the thorniest issues to be resolved are the future constitution of Bosnia, enshrining "two entities" in a single state. the status of Sarajevo, arrange ments for elections that the US wants held within six to nine months of the war's end, and a map detailing the envisaged 51-49 split of the country between the Muslim-Croat fedcration and the Bosnian Serbs.

All are dealt with in a draft settlement presented by the Contact Group. But, said Richard Holbrooke, the chief US negotiator, just before the talks began, "I don't expect a single page to last 48 hours."
The only encouragement was

President Milosevic and his Croat opposite number, Franjo Tudjman, to resolve the dispute over Eastern Slavonia, the one sliver of Croatian territory still in the hands of rebel Serbs. But the extent of the understanding was unclear, and President Tudjman was due to leave for Zagreb last night.

The Senate Republican

of an American journalist missing in Bosnia should be raised at the talks in Dayton. David Robde, a correspondent with the Christian Science Monitor. went missing on Sunday in Bosnian Serb territory. Clayton Jones, the newspaper's international news editor, said yes-terday that the Monitor had been told by the United Nations that Mr Robde was alive and being held by the Bosnian Serbs.

countries those who seek the reassurance it provides and who are ready to accept the obliga-tions involved," Mr Rifkind said. "It does indicate that a wider strategy is needed." The Foreign Secretary also argued for strengthening secu-

to the US and to Europe for the preservation of its vital interests. "It is often assumed that there is a conflict between our

pletcly reject. Mr Rifkind said defence co-

operation could not be put under the auspices of the European Union, but should stay within the boundaries of Nato and the Western European Union. He detected no contradiction between enthusiasm for Nato and a commitment to Europe, "In advocating a strengthened transatlantic identity. I must emphasise that this will not be at the expense

US troops could be haned over

Seoul - The United States agreed to study whether American troops accused of serious crimes in South Korea should be handed over to Korean authorities for questioning before they are indicted, after a rape case in Japan. The US Defence Secretary, William Perry, opened two days of annual security talks with South Korean leaders also warning North Korea that thousands of US troops remained ready to help defend the South in any new war. But the issue of legal jurisdiction over those troops took the spotlight after the alleged rape of a 12-year-old girl by three US servicemen on Okinawa in September. He stressed that the rights of US personnel would be paramount in consideration of any softening of very strict protection of US troops overseas.

Former Colombian president killed

Bogota -- Alvaro Gomez Hurtado. 76, a former Colombian presidential candidate, ambassador to Washington and outspoken critic of the government, was killed in an attack by unidentified gunmen. Radio news bulletins said two assailants shot Mr Gomez near the entrance of Sergio Arboleda University.

More massacres in Burundi

Bujumbura — Aid workers in Burundi said they counted 103 fresh graves at a massacre site and the nation's capital was rocked overnight by heavy gunfire and grenade blasts. Security sources said at least four people died in the overnight flare-up. State radio reported at least 42 killed in a refugee camp in the northern province of Kayanza on Wednesday.

Andreotti stands up for himself

Perugia - Former Italian prime minister Giulio Andreotti defended himself before a judge who was deciding whether to indict him for complicity in the murder of a journalist in 1979. He is accused of complicity in the shooting of Mino Pecorelli, outside the Rome offices of *Ope* magazine, that was about to publish an article on Christian Democratics financing. *Reuter* Abortion doctors face prison terms

Washington — The House of Representatives voted to impose

a two-year prison term for doctors who perform certain late-term abortions - the first time Congress has moved to outlaw a specific abortion procedure. By a 288-139 vote the House passed a bill banning so-called partial birth abortions, a rare procedure in which a foetus is partly delivered feet-first, scissors inserted in the base of the skull and the brains suctioned out while the head is still in the birth canal.

Ninteen hanged in South Korea

Seoul — Nineteen convicted felons on Death Row were hanged, the Justice Ministry said. The executions - in Seoul, Pusan, Taegu and Kwangju - were the first since 15 prisoners were put to death 13 months ago. It was the largest-scale execution held by the ministry. Forty-three inmates remain on death row.

Russian cosmonauts find leak

Moscow — Three cosmonauts on board Russia's orbiting Mir station have discovered a leak in the main cooling system and have switched to a back-up system, space officials said on Thursday. In theory the consequences of the leak could lead to an increase of temperature inside the station, though the reserve system was working normally.

Gunmen kill migrant workers

Karachi — Gunmen killed 15 migrant workers here on Thursday in a mass killing that police said could be revenge for the deaths of three militants of the ethnic Mohajir National Movement (MQM). Police said 16 workers, all apparently from the central province of Punjab, were rounded up overnight in the Gulberg

Clowns burn their costumes

Tegucigalpa. Honduras -- More than 60 clowns burned their costumes in a park to protest the kidnapping of children by armed men dressed as clowns. Armed men in clown suits stole 10 children from the course and dren from the arms of their mothers in the past week here and in San Pedro Sula, police say, Police say an average of one child a day has been abducted in the last month.

Rifkind soothes Russian fears over expanded Nato for Russian concerns, for the are themes evoked by virulent "None of this invalidates the its destiny lies," Mr Rifkind said. rights of 25 million Russians nationalists and unreconcase for accepting into Nato" "It is an assumption that I com-



Diplomatic Editor

The Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, has made a notably conciliatory reference to Russia in a major foreign policy speech, saying that Russian concern over the enlargement of Nato must be assuaged and that expansion itself must be

more fully considered.

Mr Rifkind said the alliance should display understanding for Russian preoccupations. and should build up a broader relationship with Moscow.

ception, mistaken though it may be, of exclusion and encirclement", the Foreign Secretary said, in a speech prepared for delivery last night. His remarks will be interpreted as a cautious reaction to

the illness of President Boris Yeltsin and a reflection of worries in the West that Russian extremists could come to the fore in parliamentary elections next month. The rights of ethnic Rusrelationship with Moscow. sians in former Soviet republics "We must show understanding and the spectre of encirclement

structed Communists opposed abroad, for instance, for the perto Mr Yeltsin and to his Foreign Minister, Andrei Kozvrev. Mr Rifkind emphasised that

Nato was committed to extending its membership to the new democracies of Eastern Europe. "But the impact of expansion must be more fully considered", he said. There would be enormous financial and strategic implications, he added, and new members had to be aware of the military obligations inherent in a common defence guarantee.

rity ties with the United States. He said Britain had to look both

European and Atlantic interests, of our participation in the European Union," he said.

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better, political future critical RICHARD BALMFORTH

Moscow - The Kremlin said esterday that President Boris Yeltsin was feeling better in hospital, while his political foes sharpened their knives as they began campaigning for Russia's parliamentary election on 17

December. Mr. Yeltsin, 64, was taken to hospital a week ago after suffaring his second mild heart attack in four months.

"He is better, of course," a presidential spokesman said by iciephone. "Medical treatment bears fruit. The statement bore a marked contrast to a cautious assessment by the top presidential adviser Viktor Ilyushin on Wednesday, who said after a brief meeting with Mr Yeltsin: "I cannot say that he looks well." Yesterday, after visiting Mr Yeltsin again, Mr Hyushin said: "Things are getting better because the President has started getting into

Mr Ilyushin, a loyal Yeltsin lieutenant, said on Wednesday that the President himself realised that his second mild heart attack in less than four

months was "no joking matter". Yeltsin aides were reported yesterday to be working hard to ensure the Kremlin leader's re-election next June, though Mr Yeltsin has yet to say if he is a candidate. Their current efforts suggest his Kremlin associates believe the President's heart illness will not rule him out of the race, according to a

group of political analysts. The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace quoted a source close to the chief Yeltsin bodyguard, General Alexander Korzhakov, as saying

the administration was working 'full steam ahead' on Mr Yeltsin's campaign for the June presidential poll.

Yeltsin's health

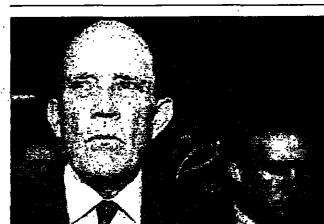
Media and television cameras have been kept well away from Moscow's Central Clinical Hospital. With political tension high among myriad parties in the run-up to the December election, aides have been care-

ful to say he is in command. But Mr llyushin's Wednesday meeting with Mr Yeltsin was restricted to 10 minutes, strongly suggesting there was a limit

to his grip on day-to-day events. Up to now most of Mr Yeltsin's many opponents have refrained from trying to ex-ploit his illness for fear of such a ploy back-firing. But as po-litical parties began the first formal day of campaigning vesterday, with the first snow of winter swirling in Moscow, Mr Yeltsin's powerful Communist focs took the gloves off.

The Communist Party leader, Gennady Zyuganov, took a swipe at the bed-ridden leader for his eccentric behaviour. Listing events on Mr Yeltsin's heavily-charged programme beforc he was taken ill, Mr Zyuganov referred to him "paying attention to a secretary an allusion to an incident when he "tweaked" a Kremlin secretary in the back at the start of a news conference. Mr Zyuganov suggested Mr Yeltsin' illness had highlighted the weakness of the presidential system in which the State Duma has been largely sidelined as a decision-making body.

We must strictly follow the law, strengthen all bodies of power . . . because the country cannot be hostage to the state of health and behaviour of one person," he said.



Mandela's foe: Magnus Malan, left, leaving court yesterday with Photograph: Mike Hutchings/Reuter

Proud defender of apartheid on trial for murder

ROBERT BLOCK Johannesburg

Dressed in sober suits, 11 retired officers representing the cream of old South Africa's military establishment were yesterday arrested, brought before a judge and charged with 13 apartheidera murders. They were granted bail and told to appear in Dur-ban's regional court again on

1 December. Never before had such a distinguished group of high-ranking military men had to face official charges for crimes committed during the years of white minority rule. Among the ac-cused were five generals and an admiral, but only one of them could really lay claim to star status: General Magnus Malan, a former defence chief who served as defence minister during the last violent decade of apartheid, from 1980 to 1991. It is a fact of which he is still proud.

After being released on bail. General Malan said yesterday: "What happened here today is causing the biggest crisis that's ever been in the democracy of South Africa. I would like to say I am a moderate ... I am a democrat ... I am a Christian and

I'm very proud of it." The statement, like the general's history, is controversial.

Throughout his ministerial tenure, General Malan was an outspoken foe of President Nelson Mandela's African Nation-

As defence chief in the 1970s al Congress he came into close contact with P W Botha, then defence minister, a post he would later relinquish to General Malan when he became president General Malan once said Mr Botha had had a great influence on him and their views on politics and military strategy coincided. In both posts General Malan articulated the "total onslaught" theory, which was used to justify the expansion and ruthless tactics adopted by the South African military in its war against the black liberation movement. According to this argument, the Communist world, working through the ANC and its allies, was bent on a "total onslaught" against South Africa and that in response the country had to adapt a "total national strategy" to combat it.

During his final days at the Defence Ministry, General Malan repeatedly fended off charges that for years undercover army units had stoked black factionfighting and killed government opponents. In 1990 he admitted the existence of a shadowy antiguerrilla unit, but denied order-

ing its members to kill. When F W de Klerk and his fellow apartheid reformists took over from Mr Botha, General Malan was demoted. He resigned from Mr de Klerk's cabmet in 1993.

The case against General Malan and the others focuses on their alleged role in setting up a paramilitary force for Inkatha, the black rival organisation of the ANC. The charges relate to a hit squad attack on the home of Willie Ntuli at KwaMakhuta, near Durban, on 21 January 1987. Thirteen people, including seven children, were killed in the attack, which was apparently aimed at Ntuli's son, a lo-

eal youth activist. Central to the case is General Malan's connection with special training camps set up in the mid-1980s in Namibia's Caprivi Strip. The camps were ostensibly to train bodyguards for Zulu politicians. However, it is alleged that the Caprivi was really a training ground for lnkatha paramilitary cadres, specialising in assassi nation and sabotage.

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The Communists were one of

35 parties officially registered on Wednesday night. The Central

Electoral Commission has barred the main reform party.

Yabloku, headed by the liberal

economist Grigory Yavlinsky, on

technical grounds, but the par-

ty has appealed to the Supreme

ourt to reverse the decision. With Mr Yeltsin's advisers

having only limited access to

him, Russian commentators are asking who is really running

General Korzhakov, who ap-

his formal role, and could use

access to Mr Yeltsin in hospi-

tal for political ends.

Speculation has focused on

ars to wield influence beyond

the country.

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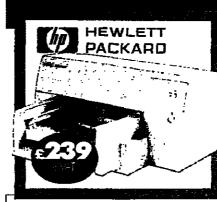


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Jihad bombers killed in failed revenge attacks

and PATRICK COCKBURN Jerusalem

*He was wearing a black sweater and I could see a barrel in the back seat of the car". said 14-year-old Munir Abu Eid describing the last moments of a Palestinian suicide bomber who died yesterday morning as he tried to ram an Israeli bus in

the Gaza strip.
The barrel, which presumably contained explosives, tore apart the beige Fiat 124 but only smashed the glass windows of the bus, lightly wounding 11 Israelis, mostly of whom were the yelling of the settlers and the soldiers inside before the ambulances came", Munir said. Casualties were probably low because an Israeli military jeep hampered the Fiat's approach to the bus, according to an

in the south of the Gaza strip, comes six days after Fathi Shkaki. leader of the militant group Islamic Jihad, was assassinated in Malta. In an interview published in the Washington Post yesterday, the Israeli Health Minister. Ephraim Sneh, all but admitted his government was responsible. Members of Islamic Jihad, responsible in the past for suicide bomb attacks on

A second suicide homber died soon afterwards, as he tried to blow up an Israeli military convoy. But soldiers who had been expecting an attack halting 50 yards from where the car blew up. The southern Gaza strip, where there is a concentration of 15 Israeli settlements. has been the scene of suicide Israeli and Palestinian lead-

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The attack at Deir al-Ballah, bombers failed to inflict serious of his bus, which was carrying casualties, but the attacks show Islamic Jihad is determined to prove it is still an effective force, despite Shkaki's death. Shimon Pères, the Israeli Foreign Minister, and Yasser Arafat, the PLO chairman, said they would press ahead with

peace negotiations.

In the past, the most devastating suicide bombings have happened in Israel, when attackers strapped explosives to their bodies. Yesterday's attacks do not appear well that Islamic Jihad has been weakened by pressure from the Israeli and Palestinian Author-

Israeli forces have been on the alert since the assassination of Shkaki, and the bus which was attacked was escorted by loves me", said Moshe Danino.

workers to a settlement.

Mr Danino said his bus had just entered the Gaza Strip "when a car in front of us started to drive slowly. They [the solaside, but he paid them no attention.When we got within 200 metres of a roadblock, I turned left to pass him and that is when he drove at me and blew himself up.

The attack underlines the vulnerability of the 5,000 Israeli settlers who have remained in the Gaza strip despite Palestinian opposition. The women on the bus commute daily from poor agricultural towns in southern Israel to the Gush Katif block of settlements, where many work in kinder gartens and nursery schools.

There will almost certainly be another attack, Jihad will want to show it is not a one-man band that will wither and die

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Vain sacrifice: Israeli bomb experts carrying away chunks of the suicide bomber's vehicle

lawyers of the on Ital army's fid

Dirty war: Fundamentalists held without trial are beaten, raped and denied medical help

Egyptian Islamists die in 'terror' jail

In a sinister new development in the Egyptian government's war against its Islamist opponents, at least 26 captured fundamentalists have mysteriously died in custody in just eight months, most of them in a grim new jail far out in the Sahara

The deaths are described by Egyptian lawyers as a cam-paign of "terror" to eliminate Islamist suspects before they are even brought to trial. They follow consistent reports of the beating, starvation and rape of inmates in the Wadi al-Jadid prison complex 200 miles northwest of Assiut.

A lawyer who managed to visit the new jail two months ago has shown the Independent signed statements by four pris-oners who describe how their fellow immates, on arrival at the jail were stripped and whipped with wire, ordered to assume female names and then either beaten or forced to perform homosexual acts with other prisoners as punishments for breaking jail rules.

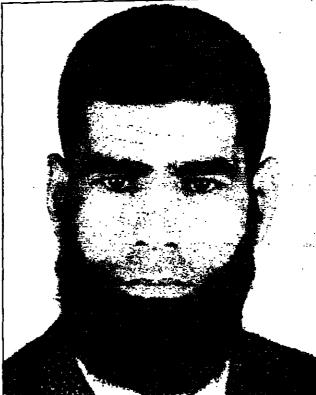
"Many of the prisoners are starved, and when they have been beaten, they have not received medical treatment - and so they die," the lawyer said after insisting that the *independent* did not publish his name.

Twenty of the prisoners who have died were in their 20s and 30s. Most of their families have received certificates stating that they died of "sharp circulatory and respiratory failure".
In the case of Mustafa Iraqi,

a 34-year-old Islamist lawyer, death in the Wadi al-Jadid prison was said to have been due to a "chest disease", but a fellow prisoner, Abdulla Ali Ahmed, testified that Iraqi had been tortured by security guards in the jail, and that wounds to his chest were deliberately left untreated. Police at the graveside at Iraqi's burial prevented any examination of the body. When families have been al-

lowed to see prisoners' bodies, they have almost invariably noticed that the dead man suffered severe weight loss. Other pris-oners were said by the author-ities to have died of "acute kidney failure" (Mohamed Ali Ahmed, 35), "acute pneumonia" (Ahmed Abd el-Maksoud, 28) or tuberculosis (Ayman Khalifa Haji, 27).

More typical was the case of 26-year-old Ali Mahmoud al-Reffie, who died in Wadi al-Jadid prison on 24 June, less than six months after his arrest. His family were summoned to receive his corpse at midnight and ordered by the police to bury it immediately. Security men stood by as Reffie's "They are then forced to crawl down a 45ft corridor, all the while being beaten by guards on



Death in custody: Mustafa Iraqi 's wounds went untreated

grave an hour later under po-lice arc lamps. He had died, they said, of "sharp circulatory and respiratory failure, although no death certificate was issued.

Hafez abu Sada, the executive chairman of the Egyptian Organisation of Human Rights. which has catalogued many of the deaths and complained in vain to the Egyptian Minister of the Interior, believes the deliberate mistreatment of the prisoners and their incarceration in the new jail, far from their homes, is part of a sys-tematic punishment. "These men have not been tried some of them have been held since 1989 - and we cannot even get a reply from the Interior Ministry when we demand an explanation for all these deaths," he said.

The lawyer who demanded anonymity was less diplomatic. "The government is using this prison to dehumanise and shame these men. That is why they are given female names do you know how insulting that is for a Muslim? - and that is why, if a guard is angry with a prisoner, he will order another inmate to rape him, right there in the cell. This happens

regularly." The same lawyer described how new arrivals at Wadi al-Jadid, in which around 3,500 Islamists are now being held, were taken 10 at a time from covered lorries and ordered to crawl through the main gate.

remains were lowered into his grave an hour later under poeach of them a woman's name. They must use this name all the time in the prison. They can wear only their underclothes for a week and then they are given a yellow prison uniform. There

is no doctor, no prison hospital." Reports of prisoners being forced to rape each other as punishment by guards have also emerged from the Wadi Natroun jail, near the desert road between Cairo and Alexandria, Here, too, inmates are forced to assume female names. "When he is first given the name, he must keep repeating it, shouting it out loud until he reaches the door of his cell," the lawyer said. "He and the other men then have to remain naked in the cell for two

Lawyers have been hampered in their efforts to visit clients in the jail by the refusal of prison officials to give their real names - for fear that their families could be murdered by members of the Islamic Jihad, whose savage war against President Hosni Muharak's government has now cost the lives of at least 820 Egyptians.

Family members are also forced to wait for hours beneath the desert sun at both Wadi al-Jadid and Wadi Natroun to see their relatives, often being refused the statutory sevenminute visit because, according to lawyers, the official signatures on their visitors passes are

'illegible". Dr Ossama el-Baz, Mr Mubarak's political affairs director, met Egyptian human rights groups for the first time in August to hear their complaints, and agreed to study their eports. Since then, there have been at least seven more deaths







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case by Thanksgiving - 23 Nov-

ember. In the meantime the

contest for the nomination has

been frozen, with Senator Bob

Dole far ahead and his nine

rivals, for all their efforts, next

has been made by the busi-

nessman Malcolm "Steve"

Forbes, whose saturation TV ad

campaign promoting a flat tax

has pushed him into second or

third place in New Hampshire,

where the crucial first primary

takes place next February. But

the rest of the field, even the

heavy-spending Senator Phil

Gramm and the stridently right-

wing Pat Buchanan, are simply

treading water as the world

polls suggest he would jump into

a virtual dead heat with Sena-

tor Dole among likely Repub-

lican primary voters, but with a

far better chance of defeating

President Clinton in the presi-

dential election. Moreover.

General Powell as candidate

would, most analysts say, drive

at least half the field out of the

coming out daily. This is just the beginning," says the prosecutor Sergio Dini, initiator of the

biggest single investigation, in

to triple or quadruple the

weight of personal effects of sol-

diers sent on foreign postings,

and then share the profits with

the moving company. The go-

scription, willingly accepted by some officers, is between 20m and 30m lire (£8,000-£12,000).

And then there are the indi-

vidual cases, such as the admi-

ral accused of abusing the full

resources of the Venice arsenal to throw a wedding banquet for

his daughter, or the curator of the military museum at the

Castel Sant Angelo in Rome

who allegedly pocketed 1bn lire by faking bills for exhibitions that never took place, projects

that never got off the ground and non-existent loans to oth-

18bn lire (about £6m) disappeared between 1988 and 1991

alone. The final figure is ex-

pected to run into tens of bil-

lions of lire. The revelations

come as little surprise to the

millions of Italian men who have

served their mandatory 12-

month stint in military service.

but they are doing untold dam-

age to the already shaky repu-

The top brass was already

highly embar, assed a few years

ago, when it emerged that it had

established a secret army called

Gladio at the height of the

Cold War to overthrow the

Communists if they ever took

power in Italy. Now it appears

that the chief activity of Glad-

io officers was to meet in luxury hotels in holiday resorts at the

device strapped to the man's body was not a bomb.

perintendent, Octavio Visiedo,

said 11 pupils were on the bus,

with the bus driver and an aide.

The Dade County schools su-

expense of the taxpayer.

Police shoot bus

hijacker dead

tation of the armed forces.

The magistrates estimate that

er museums.

One favourite tactic has been

Should he enter the race,

waits for the Powell word.

Already he has exposed as a fallacy

what had once been an axiom of

Republican politics on abortion

abortion.

The one small splash of late

to nowhere.

RUPERT CORNWELL

Even before Colin Powell has amounced whether he will seek

the 1996 Republican nomina-

tion; the very notion of his

candidacy is reopening old fis-

sure lines in the party, and

generating a rebellion from

many conservatives without

Pro-choice on abortion, a

supporter of affirmative action

and gun control, General Pow-

ell was never going to be a poster boy for the "social con-servative" wing of the Repub-

lican right. But yesterday

brought the most powerful co-

ordinated protest yet, as lumi-

naries of the ideological right

summoned a press conference

to denounce the most popular

public figure in American life as

a Clinton Democrat hiding be-

The individuals themselves,

hind a row of medal ribbons.

including Gary Bauer of the

Family Research Council and

Paul Weyrich, head of the Free

Congress Foundation, are

scarcely household names in the

country at large. Their very

presence on the podium,

though, offers a foretaste of the

vitriol that General Powell can

expect to face should he take the

That is the riddle which con-

has promised to answer perhaps at least half the field as early as next weekend, in any contest completely.

Lawyers open

fire on Italian

army's fiddles

indefatigable anti-corruption ingrate for a bribe to avoid con-

sumes Washington, and one he

presidential plunge.

ANDREW GUMBEL

The Italian fighting man is

probably second to all," says the

cynical 107-year-old man in

Joseph Heller's Catch-22. Italy's

armed forces have never been

held in particularly high esteem, and now, thanks to the lat-

est efforts of the country's

magistrates, one begins to un-

So busy are the troops in-

venting schemes to rip off the

state, it seems, that they have no

time to get into shape to fight.

Over the past week, magis-trates across the country have uncovered thousands of cases of

grossly inflated expenses claims,

a system of bribery to relieve reluctant young men of their national service, and myriad

kinds of corruption, forgery

and embezzlement reaching

right up the ladder to colonels

One has to admire the mili-

tary for their ingenuity, at least. One group of officers in charge

of procuring uniforms sub-con-

tracted the job to China at a

tenth of the going rate in Italy

claimed back the cost of mov-

ing more than four tons of

equipment and personal ef-

fects for a routine trip to a mil-itary base for which he took no

more than a toothbrush and a

So far, the magistrates have placed around 5,000 military

personnel under investigation.

And, thanks to the remarkable

willingness of suspects to spill

the beans on their friends in

exchange for lenient treatment

in the courts, there could be

Miami Beach, Florida (AP) — A hijacker angry with tax col-

lectors commandeered a school

bus yesterday with 11 disabled

children and two adults on

board, taking them on a har-

rowing ride before police shot

About an hour after the hi-

jacking began, police tried to ne-gotiate with the hijacker. When

that failed, they fired at least

three shots at him, according to

The authorities were uncer-

tain whether the suspect was

shot on the bus or as he was getting off it in front of a restau-

Television showed police

swarming around the front door

a police spokesman.

rant in Miami Beach.

him dead.

"New developments are

much more to come.

change of clothes.

Another individual officer

and pocketed the difference.

and generals.

precedent for two decades.

Already he has exposed as a candidacy - which could siphon

off enough Republican votes to

when conservatives forced Pres-

ident Gerald Ford to drop the

liberal Nelson Rockefeller as his

running-mate, have such muti-

nous feelings been stirred on the

right. And a "Rockefeller Re-

publican" is how General Pow-

Other conservatives speak

warmly of him - among them

the former Reagan and Bush

Cabinet members Bill Bennett

and Jack Kemp, and William Kristol, once chief of staff for

Dan Quayle and architect of the

former vice-president's "fami-

ly values" campaign, but now

ardently campaigning in the Weekly Standard, his new con-

ell has described himself.

Not perhaps since 1976.

re-elect Mr Clinton.

fallacy what had once been an

axiom of Republican presiden-

tial politics; that, in the prima-

ry season at least, wee betide the

candidate who did not pander

to the religious, anti-abortion

and pro-family right, said to

dominate the nominating

process. In fact, General Powell

would be the first choice of one

in three likely primary voters, a New York Times/CBS poll

found this week. Contrary to the

received wisdom, his pro-choice

views are not anathema to the

party faithful. Only one in five

Republicans would pay beed to

calls from conservative Christ-

ian leaders to boycott candi-

dates who do not oppose

an

Washington awaits the 'Rockefeller Republican'

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Presidential leanings: Colin Powell will announce his candidacy decision by 23 November Photograph: Glynn Griffiths

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servative magazine. Why, they argue, throw away a real chance of the White House for a likely loser in Bob Dole? That calculation too has produced uncharacteristic caution from the most celebrated conservative of them all ~ Speaker Newt Gingrich, Mr

Faced with these home truths, the Republican right Gingrich (aces an awkward has split. A faction led by yeschoice. A Powell victory would terday's speakers and Mr out into the White House a man Buchanan warns that a Repless than wholly enamoured of ublican convention would nevthe Speaker's "Republican Revolution". But if Mr Gingrich er swallow General Powell's liberal social views. Indeed Mr runs (which he has not ruled Buchanan hints that if the parout) he would have to give up ty's platform endorsed them he his present job, while would walk out and perhaps poll shows he would be independent trounced by Mr Clinton. & Dixons

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commandeered in south-west Dade County. Police then surrounded the hijacked bus as it travelled from south-west Miami towards the town centre. News helicopters followed and the chase was broadcast live on national tele-

During the hijacking, the bus driver kept in radio contact with authorities and passed on the hijacker's demands.

of the bus and then dragging the never panicked." The bus finally stopped outside the restaurant, where the hijacker said he wanted to eat lunch. While police tried to negotiate, the bus started moving again slowly and stopped. The suspect was then shot.

The school bus was on the way to Blue Lakes Elementary School in Miami when it was

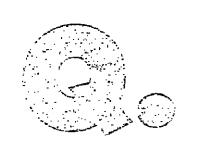
The bus driver frankly was a hero", Mr Visiedo said. "She

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Two restaurant workers said Suspect away. the hijacker had worked as a waiter at the restaurant, but left on Wednesday night apparently because of the tax dispute. The hijacker told police he had a bomb and threatened to blow up the bus Police said they found afterwards that the



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Quebec MPs threaten new secession vote

Associated Press

Montreal - Quebec's separatists, in a defiant strategy switch, decided vesterday to remain in the federal parliament despite their recent referendum defeat. Their purpose is to fight proposals aimed at keeping Quebec in Canada.

The objective of sovereignty is more alive than ever before," said the separatist leader. Lucien Bouchard, "It's more important than ever that there are Quebeckers who truly defend Quebec ... there will be an all-

out assault."
The Quebec bloc has 53 seats in parliament and is the largest opposition party. Members considered the latest federal promises to Quebec to be "a decoy", Mr Bouchard said, but he added he was not ready to make a second crucial decision whether to give up his own seat in parliament and replace Jacques Parizeau, who has resigned as head of Quebec's separatist government. Mr Bouchard said he needed more time to confer with his family, saying: "My sons hate the word

referendum. The Bloc Québecois candidates were elected to parliament in 1993 on promises to prepare the ground for the sovereignty referendum, then leave their seats. They reconsidered after the separatists lost Monday's referendum by just 53,000 votes out of 4.6 million. The following day Mr Parizeau announced his resignation.

Members of Mr Parizeau's cabinet said they would welcome Mr Bouchard as the replacement. The parliamentary leader's fiery speeches were credited with pulling the separatists into a dead heat in the referendum campaign after they had trailed badly in early

The comments by Mr Bouchard about attempting another referendum on secession have infuriated Canada's Prime Minister, Jean Chrétien. He is promising the province new privileges if it stays in Canada, but warned that he would not tolerate "referen-

separatist campaign.

Saskatchewan, said that they

were willing to consider con-

stitutional reforms to shift fed-

eral powers to the provinces, including Quebec.

Paul Begin.

dums every six months". "Canada has a right to political stability," Mr Chretien said on Wednesday, "That's my constitutional responsibility and I will deliver, because everybody in Canada is paying the price for

The Prime Minister has promised that parliament, controlled by his Liberal Party, would work quickly on political changes to satisfy Quebec nationalists. In his speech on Wednesday, he said these would include formal recognition of Quebec as a "distinct society" and a commitment that the constitution would not be amended without Quebec's

But Mr Chretien added: "We cannot play that game where there will be a referendum every six months or year or two years until they win, and after that there will be no more ref-

Hillary's knickers in a Brazilian twist



That ad: The First Lady's latest, inadvertent incarnation

Hillary Clinton: lawyer, mother. "presidential part-ner". cookie-baker, newspaper columnist and now knickers model. Her latest incarnation is quite inadvertent, however, A Brazilian lingerie company is using an accidentally revealing photo of the First Lady, taken during her recent Latin American tour, in an advertisement.

The Portuguese text accompanying the photograph reads: Mr President of the United States of America: Your Excellency can't imagine what Duloren can do." Smaller print below reads: "A tribute to one of the most important women of the decade."

"In this case, we want to say that daring women don't mind letting their panties be seen." said Silvio Matos, director of the Criacao da Contemporanea agency, which created the advert for Duloren.

"In the interest of good taste and good sense we have no comment." said Mrs Clinton's press secretary, Lisa Caputo. Earlier this year, a rival

Brazilian lingerie maker, Valisere, hired Divine Brown, the Hollywood prostitute arrested with Hugh Grant for "lewd conduct", for an advert warning women against ignoring their partners' sexual fantasies. Ms Brown got a dose of reality on Wednesday, when she began her six-month jail sentence.

Children's charities in South Africa are \$100,000 better off, thanks to two of the world's best-loved men, Santa Claus and Nelson Mandela — though



PEOPLE

to some they are one and the

"Not many people are aware that Mandela contributes money from his own salary every month into a fund to help the underprivileged children of South Africa," said Conrad Sidegeo, South Africa's ambassador to Denmark, as he accepted the prize on behalf of the President, who was named Santa of the Year" by the Santa Claus Foundation of Greenland. "It is going to give so much to the children of South Africa, where need is enormous.

Backed by the government of Greenland, which claims to be the real home of Father Christmas, the foundation assists children all over the world. Lars-Emil Johansen, prime minister of the autonomous Danish province, will visit Johannesburg to present the President with the rest of his prize: a full-size wax model of Mr Mandela — dressed as Santa Claus.

Tt's all over between her and LOJ Simpson, Paula Barbieri says. The model told ABC television that she waited faithfully for the American football star from the time of his arrest on double-murder charges in June 1994 until his acquittal a month ago. From jail, she said, Simpson had told her, repeatedly and tearfully, that if he were acquitted of the murders of his exwife, Nicole, and her friend Ronald Goldman, he would abandon his celebrity lifestyle. But once free, Miss Barbieri said, he began cashing in on his fame and suggested to her that they pose for photographs to-

gether, for money. "Rather than a quiet, 'Let's get back to who you and I are, and let's get to know each other again on a different level' it was a realisation for me that he was going back to that lifestyle," she said. Now she just wants to move on. "And when all those people ask me 'How's OJ?" ... I won't know. I just want to work. I want to have children. I want to love."

Maryann Bird



Royal robe: The Queen wearing a traditional Maori cloak at the beginning of her visit

Iraq could foil uclear test har nuclear test ban

Defence Correspondent

Third World countries on the threshold of becoming nuclear powers could develop the weapons undetected, using new simulation techniques, according to a German defence scientist. The simulation is said to be well within the capabilities of countries such as Iraq, and could make the forthcoming Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty irrelevant as a means of halting nuclear proliferation.

The global ban on all nuclear testing is due to come into force next year. The French tests in the South Pacific will probably be the last. For developed countries with sophisticated computers, it is already possi-ble to predict the size and characteristics of a nuclear blast without actually testing. The French have said their tests are the final stage in calibrating their computer codes, which will then obviate the need for further tests.

Until now it has been assumed the ban would make it hard for other countries to develop nuclear weapons because full-scale tests would be instantly detected. But simpler ways of mimicking nuclear explosions would enable these

nowers such as Iraq, Iran, Pakistan and North Korea - to develop powerful warhcads, and predict their performance accurately, without being detected by the International Atomic Energy Authority. One new technique is called

sonoluminescence. A bubble in a liquid is expanded and contracted using ultrasound. If the bubble implodes, it can reach temperatures of 10 million Cat its centre, simulating a nuclear fusion reaction. Britain and France have laser facilities which can be used to

help simulate fusion. This week's announcement on Franco-British nuclear co-operation may mean British scientists using France's laser at Bordeaux. However, Dr Artur Knoth, a German defence scientist, told the International Defense Review: "Several other techniques

are currently available, and all are well within the abilities of evisting physics. All are cheap to operate and all are relatively unchallenging technically. Except for fusion tests done by laser, all require small levels of equipment and hence would be hard to detect by reconnaissance satellite. This makes cases of suspected proliferation all the harder to



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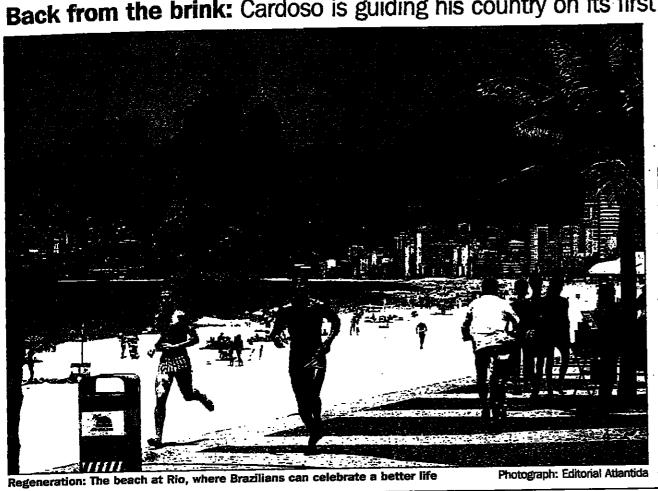
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Back from the brink: Cardoso is guiding his country on its first steps away from a past dominated by violence and corruption



Brazil shapes up under 'intellectual' president

PHIL DAVISON Rio de Janeiro

When the Brazilian President, Fernando Henrique Cardoso, met his US counterpart at the UN birthday celebrations in New York last week, he handed over an unusual gift, the memoirs of Cordell Hull, Secretary of State to one of Bill Clinton's White House predecessors, Franklin D Roosevelt.

Would Mr Clinton not have been more interested in a souvenir from Brazil? Perhaps. But Mr Cardoso was giving the American President a message. During the creation of the UN. Messas Roosevelt and Hull had promised Brazil a permanent seat on the Security Council, a promise never kept but often cited by the 65-year-old former sociologist who now rules

had come. UN officials now say Brazil is a serious contender to become the first Latin American permanent member of an expanded Security Council. This is due in no small part

to Mr Cardoso's success in stabilising his nation since he took office on 1 January. He has tamed rampant inflation, shaken up a notoriously corrupt olies in oil and communications, fostered increased trade with the European Union and generally improved the image of a nation whose last elected president, Fernando Collor de

Mello, resigned as he was being impeached for corruption.
Now, Mr Cardoso is pushing through constitutional reforms of the tax system, social security and public workers' contracts, all of which he hopes will be in

Mr Clinton that Brazil's time place by next year. With his popularity still as high as when he are demanding easier credit was elected, few doubt that he will eventually try to push through another constitutional reform: to allow him to run again in 1998.

He's a superb Brazilian president in relation to his immediate predecessors," said Richard Foster, a political analyst who runs the newsletter BrazilWatch in Brasilia. "He's not a macho president. He's an intellectual with specific goals. He's lived in the US and France. He speaks foreign languages and has a quick understanding of how First World leaders think." Dr Paulo Calmon, professor of political science at Brasilia University, said: "He's probably the most popular leader in Latin America. Bul he relies too much on his charis-

ma. That's his Achilles heel." Mr Cardoso was a leading sociologist when he was appointed economy minister in late 1993. By July 1994, he had launched his "Real Plan", casting off the old cruzeiro and replacing it with a new currency. the real, pegged loosely to the dollar. Previously, retail prices were rising by 50 per cent a month. When I visited Brazil shortly before the plan's intro-duction, my hotel cashier could not fit the zeros on to a single credit-card bill. Now, inflation is around 2 per cent a month, the real is worth slightly more than a dollar and Brazil's poor, the vast majority, strongly support the Real Plan.

Not everyone does. Farmers terms, and Mr Cardoso faces regular protests from landless peasants, demanding that he speed up land reforms.

Most analysts agree that economic stability is a prerequisite for social improvement. Violence in the cities, particularly in Rio, remains a serious problem. There are 21 homicides in the city daily. US anti-narcotics agents say that Brazil is becoming a processing and transit point for cocaine, and in addition to the kidnapping of poor girls for prostitution, there has been a new spate of kidnappings of the sons or daughters of wealthy businessmen. Still, Mr Cardoso is focusing

his efforts on a reform which would slash the salaries of 7 million public employees. Until now, being employed by government in Brazil was one of the world's most secure jobs. At senior level, civil servants earned several times as much as the President. They could not be sacked, even if they turned up to work only to collect their pay.

In a key vote last week, a congressional committee approved most of the constitutional amendment which would allow public employees to be sacked. It still has a long way to go, but is seen as a symbol of the president's economic revolution.

"Cardoso knows it'll take 10. 15, 20 years to get Brazil into reasonable shape." said Mr Foster, "but he wants to be able to say, 'We started it in 1995.'

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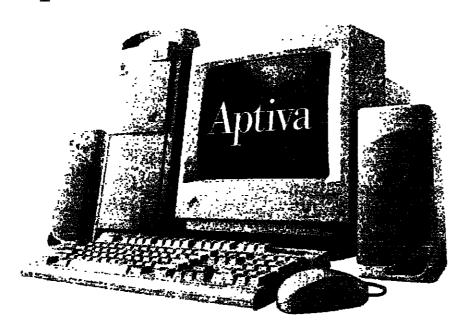
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Veggie shadow boxers hold the secret of long life

a young woman's thoughts cannot help but dwell on her own mortality. But help has been close at hand. China's capital has been host to an interna-How to live to the age of

According to the programme, all was to be revealed at the Fragrant Hills hotel on the outskirts of Peking. A group of Chinese 100-year-olds, presumably privy to the secret of longevity, were due to address the conference and tell how. So. despite the not inconsiderable risk of one's life being abruptly terminated during the chaos of Peking's morning rush-hour, the Independent sallied forth to discover the elixir of youth.

On arrival there seemed at first to have been some mistake. Across the entrance hall, a large banner was strung: "International seminar on reorganisation and bankruptcy of state-owned enterprises." This was therapy for old wrecks of a different sort, I supposed, but not quite what we were

Shrewdly guessing that the group of middle-aged women in silk Chinese pyjamas was probably not from the State Commission for the Restructuring of the Economy, I followed them through to a large hall where an audience full of earnest, but not particularly youthful-looking, people was waiting, well, carnestly. Here was the Second World Conference on Taiji Training, with its very promising slogan: "Adjust at the age of 40 and live to 100 years old". That was good, there was still time to "adjust"

Last month a Frenchwoman Jeanne Calment, became the world's oldest recorded person, exceeding the former record of 120 years and 238 days. Her recipe for survival seemed relatively benign; keep laughing, dreaming, take exercise, avoid stress and do not work too hard. She even waited until the age of 117 before giving up

The conference participants, including 160 foreigners, clearly wanted something more austere. One of the organisers. Zeng Guang, a portly 44-yearold who the rest of the time is in "building materials importexport, gave his prescription: "Taiji boxing, static Qigong for relaxation, and therapeutic selfmassage for the acupoints," he

Dong Nianli, a more respectable 73 years, who is the vice-chairman of China's (three-year-old) Global Research Centre for Health and Longevity and (more encouragingly) president of the

Autumn in Peking, the leaves Chinese Ice Hockey Associaare falling from the trees, and tion, firmly agreed. "With the best combination of these three ways, you will live up to 100 years for certain, he said firmly.

Moreover, the conference calligraphy of China's para-mount leader, 91-year-old Deng Xiaoping. "Taiji boxing is good," it read. And would Mr Deng be attending? "He has not time." said Mr Zeng.

But, with nine years to go be-fore his century, Mr Deng should be aware that Taiji alone is not enough, according to Mr Dong. "You must go to bed early and get up early. Don't smoke. Don't drink. Don't overeat. Select suitable exercise," he said. And sex? "According to scientists, people until 80 have sex. But not too much. Once a week is best. Too much will hurt your health."

Extensive research, based on China's 1990 census returns, was read to the audience with due reverence. China had 6,434 people over the age of 100, and the oldest was 136 (apologies to Mme Calment). Some twothirds are vegetarian, "love to participate in labour and exer-cises" and "are of open character"; all "have a regular life".
For dissolute readers, the

good news is that only two-fifths were teetotal, and barely a third practiced Taiji boxing. Only 11.21 per cent "drank tea properly, whatever that means. But where was the proof? Where were those sprightly 100-year-olds we had been promised? "They did not come," admitted Mr Dong. It was not explained why. The oldest person who did attend was Liu Zhaomiao, 85, from Shandong province, who said he had practiced the Dao brand of shadow boxing for 70 years and sleeps from 9pm to 4am. He was furious that the organisers had not asked him to demonstrate his martial arts skills during the closing ceremony and wanted us to heckle for his turn. Would he live to 100? "With the practice

Teresa Poole



See page 11

of Dao, yes!"

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The High Court, based in London, is divided into

Eam £98,957.

three divisions: Queen's Bench, Chancery and Famity. There are 89 men and six women. **Circuit and District Judges**

Who are the judges?

Lords of Appeal in Ordinary (Law Lords)

They hear cases in the House of Lords, the final court

of appeal for criminal and civil cases. All 12 are men.

The Lord Chief Justice, the senior judicial officer in

England and Wales, who heads the Queen's Bench

Division of the High Court and the criminal branch of

the Court of Appeal, earns £124,138. The Master

of the Rolls, who heads the civil branch of the Court

of Appeal, earns £114,874. The President of the Fam-

ily Division earns £110,137, The Vice-Chancellor, who

heads the Chancery Division and is in charge of le-

gal financial matters, earns £110,137, All are men.

Together with the Lord Chief Justice and the Mas-

ter of the Rolls, they are judges of the Court of Ap-

peal. There are 31 men and one woman.

Earn £114,874.

Divisional Heads

Lords Justices

High Court Judges

Earn £110.137.

Earn £110,000-£124,000.

Earn £59,000-£85,000.

Most crown court work is done by circuit judges. There are 480 men and 30 women, of whom four come from ethnic minorities. District judges work with circuit judges in county courts. There are 286 male and 32 female district judges, of whom two come from ethnic minorities.



they didn't know who the Beatles

were, and come hell or high water,

they would back a Conservative None of those truisms has shifted as much as the last - the two institutions are now at each other's throats. No Home Secretary has been as much criticised in judgements as Michael Howard. This week again he has been found to have acted beyond his powers by barring the head of the Moonies without hearing the latter's side of the story first. Today the Government's policy banning gays will be judged by the Court of Appeal, and judges have already warned the Government that it will face yet another defeat in the Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg if it

doesn't back down. The Tories have started to bit back - Michael Howard has taken on the judiciary by saying the Government will remove some of their discretion on sentencing. The senior judge, Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, told him he had no right to interfere.

Greater than all these is the Nolan inquiry. It began as a very traditonal fudge - John Major, in time-honoured tradition, thought he could bury sleaze by appointing a Law Lord, Lord Nolan, to investigate it. It had been done time after time with thorny problems like electoral reform or where to site an airport. Appoint a commission chaired by a judge and wait a couple of years for the report, confident that it would say little. And even if it did rock the boat a little, it could always be

ignored Nolan and Scott have been different. When the Prime Minister established the Nolan committee in October 1994 he said he wanted an "ethical workshop to provide running repairs on standards in public life". Lord Nolan and his colleagues quite deliberately chose to stretch their terms of reference, and in its recommendations went far beyond what John Major could have expected, by insisting that the answer to sleaze allegations was for MPs to publish their outside earnings. The Tory party was aghast, and has refused.

So far we have a stand-off; Nolan has become a test of the relative credibility of the judiciary and the Government, and it is far from clear that the Government in its present state can see

Nolan off. Sir Richard Scott's inquiry threatens to blow up in an even bigger way when it reports later this year. Appointed to make the arms for Iraq affair go away, the judge has, like Lord Nolan, felt confident enough to interpret his brief widely. Minister after minister faced a cross-examination from his talented QC, Presiley Baxetta date: far more searching than any-

How the two sides compare

Politicians: 2

Politicians: 3

As the Government seeks to defy Nolan, the battle between the executive and the

judges is now more intense than at any time in recent history. Stephen Ward reports

Judges **Politicians**

Selflessness Judges: 5 Judges often earn less money than

the barristers appearing before them, and less than they themselves earned when they were barristers. Integrity They are criticised for crassness and ignorance, but almost never for corruption. They still make the 'News of the World' if they visit a prostitute.

Judges: 7 Supposedly what they are there for, but some still have blind spots, for

Objectivity They follow the party line. A piece of paper arrives from the whips telling them how to vote.

Once many people went into politics

chiefly from a desire to serve their

country and their constituents. That

Giving politicians any marks at all is

maligned and these help to bring up

controversial, but some are much

the average of the others.

Accountability

Openness

They have to make all their judgments in public, with reasons, and can be appealed if they get it wrong. But almost never lose their jobs. looming large just now for all Con-servatives with a majority of less

Judges: 3 In court, formal, legalistic. Outside court, they are traditionally silent about their motivations, feelings and

Politicians: 8 Seems generous, but standards vary. Taking large consultancies or high-paid directorships may be dis-

Politicians: 2

When a judge was caught smug-gling, and had to resign, it was so Judges: 2
Not what judges exercise, Get some marks for recent enlightened Law Lords and Court of Appeal judgments on human rights and medical ethics.

Some you might follow, but since Mrs Thatcher the Government has been short of charismatic figures.

There is something in the nature of the job which makes them consider

everything they say not on its merits but on its electoral appeal

Total: 30

thing they had faced in the Commons. Again, to the horror of politicians, they found themselves cast in the role not of expert witness, but sitting in the dock. They must feel threatened by the imminent report of his findings and a vague sense of betrayal that they are being turned over by what they had hoped would be one of their

Total: 38

The outcome of the contest between politicians and the judiciary remains unpredictable. As the credibility and authority of politicians has waned in many democracies, so the power of the judiciary has correspondingly tended to rise. In Italy, for example, government has fared even worst. Parliament has been deeply undermined by a series of corrup-tion investigations by judges. In the United States, even with a new mandate, President Clinton found he lacked the clout to bring in a state health service, or to allow

gays in the army. In Britain, governments have been winning a smaller share of the electorate, and party loyalties have been weakening steadily for 30 years or more. Assuming people want somebody they can look up to and trust, there is a vacuum that judges have been able to step into.

The British judiciary has enhanced its capacity to do this by seeking to change, in the space of a few short years, virtually every negative element of the traditional judidial stereotype. The position of Lord Mackay is

central in this change. His predecessor, Lord Hailsham, was an hereditary peer and politician. Lord Mackay is different. He told the BBC's Joshua Rozenburg that he had a duty to decide cases "applying the law and free from improper pressure".

Lord Mackay is the target of the current Tory backbench backlash

now abandoned law against domestic violence. He is both a member of the Cabinet and the head of the judiciary. And he has found himself squeezed between his twin constitutional roles, now being made a scapegoat in the attempted revenge of the politi-Mackay has been crucial in the

appointment of a new kind of judge. He recommends appointments to the Prime Minister and he has chosen some the most liberal ever, including the latest Law Lords (notably Lord Nolan). In 1985 he abolished the ban on judges making public pronouncements.

Three years ago the top men in the judiciary retired. Out went the Lord Chief Justice Lord Lane and in came Lord Taylor as the senior judge. Out went Lord Don-aldson, Master of the Rolls and top civil judge, and in came Sir Thomas Bingham. Each man was 13 years younger than his predecessor. Lord Taylor was not exactly a man of the people, but as a grammar school boy from Newcastle-upon-Tyne, he was not of the traditional establishment. Happy to give interviews to the press and comfortable talking to ministers, he cut a new kind of figure as the chief judge.

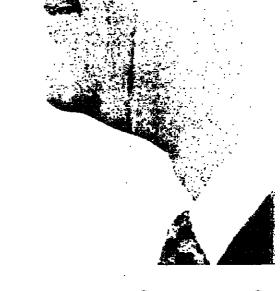
This new generation of judges, including Mr Justice Sedley who gave judgement on Mr Moon, have been responsible for a series of judical reviews of ministerial decisions which have criticised government ministers. John Patten, as Education Secretary, was told he could not force shoods to carry out his tests. Michael Howard has been repeatedly criticised over immigration, over parole, and over his Criminal Justice Act and its effect on travellers.

Meanwhile, the Government also keeps falling foul of The European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. To the beleaguered Government, it seems like part of

the same conspiracy.

Even Law Lords, traditionally the ultimate caricature of a judge, have produced some extraordinarily liberal decisions. The lords have increasingly taken decisions to protect individuals against the powers of government and large institutions. Last April Michael Howard (again) was forced to abandon a new scheme for criminal injury compensation after the lords ruled he had exceeded his powers by failing to consult Parliament.

It is not that judges have suddenly become political subversives, they are just doing what they have always done, and are trying to uphold the rule of law. It is more that the Government has passed laws that erode human rights, brought in sloppily drafted legislation and attempted to use laws for things for which they were not intended. It is their own fault that a Conservative government is in an unprecedented conover divorce legislation and the flict with the judiciary.



Who are the Government?

Cabinet Ministers

Earn £60,819, and receive an allowance for office costs of £42,754.

They head government departments and are members of the Cabinet. There are 21 men and two women. About 55 per cent went to public school followed by Oxbridge; 9 per cent went to Eton.

Ministers of State

Earn £30,307-£48,835, and receive an allowence for office costs of £42,754. They act as deputies to cabinet ministers. There

are 27 men and one woman. About 58 per cent went to public school followed by Oxbridge; 22 per cent went to Eton.

Parliamentary Under-Secretaries Earn £41,065, and receive an allowance for of-

fice costs of £42,754. There are 29 men and three women. About 50 per cent were educated at public school followed by

Oxbridge; 10 per cent went to Eton

Back-benchers

Earn £33,189 and receive an allowance for office costs of £42,754. Many back-benchers earn more than £100,000,

excluding office cost allowance, through other outside earnings. There are 231 men, of whom one is Asian, and 12 women. The 200 backbenchers hold a total of 276 paid directorships of companies and 356 paid consultancies. Douglas Hurd gets £250,000 a year for his directorship of NatWest, and Sir Norman Fowler earns £120,000 through directorships and chairmanships. Cathy Newman

Some of Wilkes's more elderly colleagues were no doubt relieved that Christine Keeler boycotted the party to launch the book Great Parliamentary Scandals by the former Tory MP turned scribbler Matthew Parris. Ms Keeler was offended by the reference to her being jailed, because it failed to point out that she was "sent down" for perjury, for protecting a friend of hers. She curtly informed Mr Parris that she would not be attending his bash in the cellars of the Churchill War Rooms in Whitehall. This greatly disappointed Wilkes, who would have enjoyed chatting about old times with his one-time temptress. Still, the party went with a swing, with victims of more recent

Christine Keeler: parliamentary scandals gamely supping their chardonnay, including the Tory MPs Michael party pooper Mates, Tim Yeo and Michael Brown. Mr Parris recalled meeting Mandy Rice Davies in a radio studio when he was an MP. She said he was the first Tory MP she had met. "And then she burst into giggles," he said. Ah, those were the days, and it made an old man very happy to recall them. Wilkes had to agree With Mr Parris that scandals are not what they used to be,

Wilkes is a man of many parts and this week his role has extended to conveying the apologies of the editor of the independent to Iau Bruce, the

Tory member for Dorset South. Bruce was naturally put out when colleagues started to greet him in midweek with strange handshakes and tugs at the pinstriped trouser leg. the problem being that this noble organ had wrongly named him as a leading Freemason-

The source of the error was Labour Research, the union-funded hammer of the Eiries. It had combed through the latest Masonic Year Book for a two-page Freemasons' Who's Who and claimed it had found four sitting Conservation Conservative members in the list. Mr Bruce was even given the starring role of sitting on a number of United Grand Lodge of England committees" Closer inspection of the Masonic

listings, alas, reveals a rather

different picture. Three Bruces

leature, Messrs Arthur and Robert

and one Major Ian Bruce. The Dorset

member (not, I fear, a military man) says: "I didn't realise I could be promoted to such exalted office without ever having been a member"



Nicholas Soames, former equerry

Queen's Flight for a ministerial trip to

the Middle East the other day. He was

entertained to hear that the aeroplane

in which he flew was none other than

to the Prince of Wales, used the



the twin-engined jet that Prince Charles pranged on a tricky landing in the Scottish isles. Bunter was so pleased to see the crate back in service that he decided to cheer up Prince Charles by having a photograph of himself taken with the plane, and duly dispatched it to the Prince.

redoubtable and previously "whipless

s hears that Sir Teddy Taylor,

Euro-sceptic, has been characteristically honest in dealing with the 35odd farmers who have become his constituents since boundary reorganisation. Under the changes his constituency of Southend East becomes Rochford and Southend East and takes on a new slice of rural Essex. But Sir Teddy - no friend, to put it mildly, of the dependency culture generated by the Common Agricultural Policy - has beseeched his new farmer constituents, politely but firmly, not to bother voting for him. It's true that reorganisation gives Sir Teddy, who has a strong personal following in Southend, a notional majority of 16,077 compared with the 13,111 he actually got in the 1992 general election. Nevertheless, most Conservative MPs, given the parious state of the polls, would still be falling over themselves to ingratiate themselves with the farmers, so long the backbone of their great party. But then Sir Teddy has always been made of sterner stuff.

It was Wilkes who first told the world that Alan Clark had decided to put his hat in the ring for the coveted new ultra-safe Tory seat of Kensington and Chelsea. Now he learns this was not mere jeu d'esprit and that the colourful, brilliant and unorthodox world-class diarist is in deadly earnest about a return to the Commons. He will not, Wilkes gnesses, want to move from his spendid home at Saltwood Castle in Kent, so a southern England seat seems the most likely. What

Kenneth Baker bas finally decided to vacate? A pal of Clark's tells me that the great man has been praised for his frankness in his section of Lord Justice Scott's inquiry and that he is

about Mole Valley, the seat that

ready, willing, and eager to serve once By contrast, the Northern Ireland minister John Wheeler, another candidate spurned by Kensington and Chelsea, has confided to Wilkes that

he is reluctantly planning to stand down from Parliament. He was understandably a bit miffed to be asked whether his Northern Ireland duties would give him enough time to turn up to parties in the constituency.

Meanwhile, do not rule out the possibility that Nicholas Scott, for all his troubles over his impending drink-driving case, could actually win when the party turns out to make its selection next Friday, Wilkes's spies say he is up for a fighting speech and that his most ardent supporters are ready to turn up in force.

Mary Robinson, the Irish President, said on her meeting with the Queen last week in London that she hoped that the Queen would visit Ireland. Some guests at the reception asked the Queen whether she would go. She is said to have replied: "I hope to

when things have settled." Or did she say she would settle in Ireland? Wilkes can hardly blame her.

Before Mohamed Al Fayed gave evidence to the privileges committee, a glittering green and gold horse-drawn carriage bearing the Harrods logo parked on double yellow lines outside the gates of the House of Commons. Two lady parking wardens stood by, wondering what to do, when Tony Banks, the cheeky Labour chappie, said: "Go on. Issue them with a parking ticket." They resisted the temptation.

There are bonuses in being pushed sideways to the ludicrons Department of National Heritage, as Wilkes's underrated Labour friend Lewis Moonie found out this week. His shadow portfolio brought with it a coveted ticket to the Rangers vs Juventus match. Sadly, he was prevented from smoking his favourite pipe tobacco at the fiercely Protestant Glasgow ground. "I don't think it would be wise to get out my packet of Three Nuns at Ibrox Park," he smiled.





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Labour misses the point again

Margaret Beckett missed an opportunity vesterday. As Labour's new Shadow Trade and Industry Minister, she has acquired responsibility for the famous BT deal, launched with such fanfare by Tony Blair at the Labour Party conference. The plan involves British Telecom offering free connections on the so-called information superhighway to public institu-tions such as libraries and schools in exchange for BT being allowed access to the home entertainment business by 2002.

Yesterday the telecommunications regulator Don Cruickshank joined in the Inderendent's criticism of this deal, arguing that Labour will only succeed in encouraging BT's monopoly, which the regulator has spent the last decade trying to counter. Better to allow rival companies to service the public sector as well: competition produces better service and keener prices. It was Mrs Beckett's chance to state that New Labour is not interested in flashy, Wilsonian deals that distort the market, but the construction of sound industrial policy based on an appropriately regulated market economy.

Instead she savaged the watchdog.

It is not that there are no sound arguments for allowing BT into the home entertainment market in 2002. By then the competing cable TV companies should be established as a serious force in the UK industry. Perhaps Oftel could require all cable and telecoms companies to connect their systems free to public institutions. That is one way to avoid confining the less well-off to a slow lane on the superhighway.

But for Mrs Beckett to argue that Labour is encouraging competition by

allowing BT into a new market misses the point. BT is easily the dominant corporate player in the UK communications market and probably will still be so by 2002. Government's job is to ensure that a regulator working at arm's length is given an appropriate set of powers to protect the consumer

against market domination by any player, rather than to make lunges in favour of one company. It is all a question of balance.

The principles of such an approach were well set out by Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, in bold speeches during ing the summer. Mr Brown presented Labour as the party of competition, the consumer's and therefore the people's friend. This route is rich in promise for New Labour, but it requires the party to resist the old corporatist temptations of trying to run companies from Victoria Street.

At the same time, Labour has embarked upon a wide-ranging discussion of the way that regulation of the privatised utilities should be organised. Should there be a single regulator for telecommunications and broadcasting? Since the industries are converging, almost certainly, yes. Should the one-person regulator give way to a panel? Less clear-cut. Is the British way of regulation, whereby prices are controlled by the imposition of formulae linked to inflation, will the best? On balance probably it is

still the best? On balance, probably it is.
But Labour will not achieve sound regulation in any sphere if it conveys the impression that ministers would be phoning the regulator every five minutes about some brilliant plan cooked up with another captain of industry. Mrs Beckett must show she grasps this. So must Mr Blair.

Stripping down puritanism

When it comes to nudity, the British are the most puritanical in Europe, according to the Independent Television Commission. It has been testing opinion on nakedness in advertisements and discovered that we don't like our suburban living rooms filled, without warning, with nipples and bottoms.

All of this sounds depressingly familiar. It suggests that we have changed little in a century. We are still oppressed by Victorian prudery, still a country of bathers who struggle under huge towels to put on 10-gallon shorts, a nation more comfortable dressing up in period costume than showing off our birthday

We've never been at ease with the human body. There are no British equivalents of the great Italian and Dutch painters of the nude. Our finest artists of the human form, the likes of Gainsborough and Millet, excelled in representing clothing, not its absence. The few modern British painters, such as Lucien Freud and Jenny Saville, who portray nudity do so in a way that speaks at least partly of disgust.

But hang on a minute. If the British are so prudish, how come Page Three girls are allowed to strut their stuff, top shelves of newsagents are awash with pornography and the television nipple count often soars in the small hours of the morning?

The answer is that the British are tolerant about most things provided they are kept in their place. Large numbers of breasts publicly displayed are fine as long as people expect to find them there. So the Queen may look stony-faced, but she would never be shocked during an overseas visit to encounter a troop of barebreasted dancers. That would not, however, do on Horseguards Parade.

Likewise, there are complicated notions of propriety for showing nakedness. The principles were best expressed in 1979, when the Williams' Report on Obscenity and Film Censorship argued that just about any material should be available for those seeking it out, but people should not stumble upon images they would find distasteful. So the most risqué should be kept under the counter, out of

The same principle applies today. Britain has a host of rules about the hours at which various levels of nudity are permitted on television. In contrast, France, Germany and Italy, for example, have less state control and fewer strictures.

But there is another factor that may help to explain British attitudes to nudity. It concerns the question of female breasts, which are the main area of controversy about nakedness. The British are clearly not at home with the chief function of the breast, namely to feed babies. One third of mothers never even try breast-feeding and only one in five is still doing it six months after birth, even though the Department of Health recommends continuing for a year. These figures are the low-

est in Europe. Given that we are so unhappy about using breasts, is it little wonder that we are wary about looking at them? All of which suggests how we might start to chip away at surviving prudish Victorian values. Instead of worrying about the censorship of nipples from shower advertisements, we should concentrate on providing a few images of them in babies'

ANOTHER VIEW Mark Brann

Blessed are the persecuted

We shall win in the end. History win situation. Nevertheless, he has sparked off an outcry that must be heard.

cuted often become the victors. I am sure that Reverend Moon is very sad and disappointed that he cannot come to Britain on his world tour. I know he loves this country and respects its great tradition of freedom. The Home Secretary has made a grave error, and my fellow members of the Unification Church

are seeking urgent redress. For many of us it has been 17 years since we have seen Reverend Moon and we remember that visit with great fondness. Why has this man of God been refused entry to this country? We are hurt. baffled and angry and yet many of us have learned patience and hope from previous confrontations with bigotry and prejudice.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus Christ said: "Blessed are ye, when men persecute you." Truly we have been blessed by Michael Howard. We had 48 hours after being notified by the Home Secretary that Reverend Moon had been refused entry to this country, and to bring this injustice to his many supporters' attention, 48 hours to try and gather enough representation to present to the

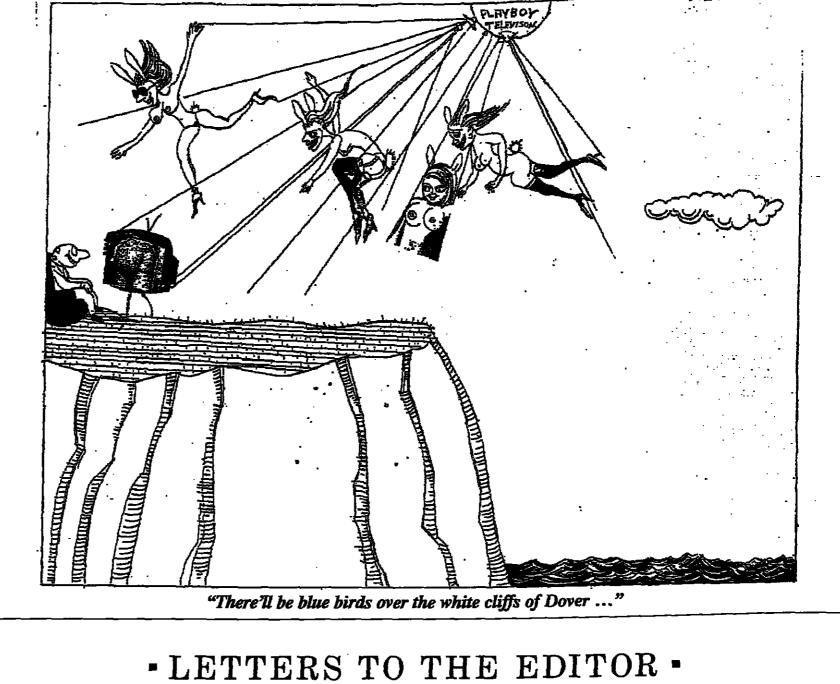
Home Secretary. Michael Howard clearly indicated that no matter what representation he received supporting Reverend Moon, he would still refuse him entry. It seems a noBecause he never gave up, despite being tortured, imprisoned, vilified on many occasions throughout his life, I believe Reverend Moon demonstrates a faith and a love of God and mankind that could have been the turning point to change this country's moral decline.

That opportunity has temporarily been denied to the people of Britain, but we shall not stop until this unjust ban has been quashed and those people are free

to make up their own minds. I remember the day Reverend Moon heard the news that a jury in the United States had found him guilty of what everybody knew was a trumped-up charge of tax evasion. He smiled and shook his head. Then turning to one of his closest followers he said: "How many times is that now?" And the man laughed with him. He has been, like St Paul, like Martin Luther King, and like so many other men who gave their lives for freedom and for

mankind, imprisoned often. Millions of Christian people throughout the US demonstrated at the injustice. My carnest hope tonight is that, whether or not they agree with his beliefs, many similar people in Britain will feel as they did.

The writer is president of the Unification



Concepts of cruelty, class... and cookery

From Mr Elliot Morley, MP Sir: Polly Toynbee made a pretty feeble defence of hunting. All the traditional defences for hunting - it controls foxes, it protects foxes (yes, I know they are contradictory), it's humane, it has support in the countryside, it protects the environment - have

long been discredited. So what's left? Labour should respect the rights of an eccentric minority group. Not much of an argument, particularly as there are lots of minority groups that are not just eccentric, but pretty unpleasant, who could resort to that. Nor would a ban stop the hunters' "fun". Hunts could switch to drag hunting if they

Labour is committed to a free vote on this issue so that parliament can decide once and for all. This has been the parrot cry, from judges to the National Trust, as an excuse for not taking action.
As far as the obsessional enthusiasm for the sport is concerned, this includes breaking agree-ments with John McFall, MP, about a form of words to protect wild mammals from deliberate cruelty in return for dropping the anti-hunting parts of the Wild Mammals (Protection) Bill.

The chance of this Bill becoming law has been ruined in the Lords by unnecessary amendments insisted on by the Blood Sports Lobby who are prepared to allow deliberate cruelty to continue rather than compromise their "sport". That's the kind of sinister cynicism Polly Toynbee should be concerned about.

Yours sincerely, ELLIOT MORLEY MP for Glanford and Scunthorpe (Lab) House of Commons London, SW1 1 November The writer is Labour spokesperson for animal welfare.

From Mr Colin Booth Sir: It is most unfortunate that our society cannot discuss mat-

ters of humane behaviour and 30 Conservative MPs have been social mores without becoming dragged into the mire of party politics, where few subjects are dealt with in a balanced manner. My wife and I have only lived in the country for seven years.

This is not thought remotely long enough for an incomer to qualify to comment on traditional village affairs. When the hunt meets on the top of our hill, I feel mildly repelled by most of those who attend - riders, followers, spectators, saboteurs, and police. However, even if I felt more strongly, I would agree with Polly Toynbee that it would be hypocrisy for a meat-eater to seek to ban fox-hunting on the grounds of cruelty.

There is, nevertheless, an important dichotomy in our law that should be addressed - the hadger-baiting and cock-fighting are illegal on grounds of cruelty. Either these activities should be immediately legalised, or foxhunting (and arguably other forms of hunting too) should be banned. Only after one of these alternatives has been implemented can a "level playingfield" be established, and the issue of bloodsports be debated on its merits, rather than on the basis of class prejudice.

Yours sincerely, COLIN BOOTH Westbury-sub-Mendip, Somerset 1 November

From Mr John Bryant Sir: Polly Toynbee argues that fox hunting should not be outlawed because it would "trespass on the rights of a small, if eccentric bunch of people". That argument also applied to the abolition of bear and bull baiting, dog fighting, badger baiting and many other forms of animal abuse.

Similarly, it is not good enough to defend fox hunting on the grounds that other abuses of animals are more cruel. The majority of the public, the Labour Party, the Liberal Democrats and

Donor and egg conundrum From Dr John Carroll persuaded that the cruelty

involved in hunting is unjustified - just as our predecessors were persuaded that the cruelty involved in dog fighting and bear baiting was unacceptable. All legislation impinges on someone's activities - otherwise we would not need it. If the pub-

lic and their parliamentary representatives decide that for the benefit of a civilised society a minority must have their activities curtailed, so be it. That is what democracy and Government is all Yours faithfully, JOHN BRYANT Wildlife Officer League Against

London, SE1

From Mr Simon Sandberg Sir: Polly Toynbee's article defending fox hunting was fantastically wrong-headed. To cite but one example, she says that "foxes are inedible". Patience Gray, in her classic book Honev from a Weed, provides a recipe for

La Volpe alla cacciatora.

She suggests that the skinned animal will need to be hung in the frost, or otherwise left in running water for three days. Then one simply cuts up the fox, simmers it in olive oil until liquor is released from the meat and then re-absorbed. These preliminaries are essential, she says, for removing any acridity. Then simply add garlic, herbs, wine, tomatoes and some stock. She says the same method works equally well for badger, though the badger will need a little more time to cook

I should imagine the case for fox hunting would be much strengthened if the MFH could be prevailed upon to serve up such a meal at the end of a successful hunt. Yours faithfully, SIMON SANDBERG London, SW11

From Mr Oliver Kamm

Sir: Fran Abrams's disturbing

claim ("Just imagine", 23 Octo-

ber) that one woman in four has

suffered physical abuse from a

male partner is unsupported by

The most thorough and statis-

tically robust studies of the preva-

lence of domestic violence are the

two representative-sample Na-

tional Family Violence surveys

conducted in the United States by

the academics Richard Gelles

and Murray Straus. They suggest

that around 100,000 women a

year suffer serious injury as a

result of domestic disputes. That

is a shocking statistic in itself, of

course, but it does suggest that

Ms Abrams should have been cit-

ing a battery rate of less than 1

per cent, not 25 per cent. Even on

a broad definition, only 16 per

cent of couples could be said to

engage in violence; the great

majority of such acts are minor

incidents, such as pushing and

jostling, that cause no physical

injury, and around half of them

are committed by women.

Yours faithfully,

OLIVER KAMM

London, SW9

31 October

1 November

Slogging sisters could generalise from their own Battered women. disputed figures

From Ms Linda Bellos Sir: Genevieve Fox is quite right to ask where all the feminists have gone (31 October). The answer is that they remain working away in the unglamorous world of women's aid, rape crisis women's centres, etc. Publishing was and is an important part of feminism but it never was the forefront for black and white working-class women. Whether it was consciousness-raising groups or later Greenham Common, a great deal of work went on that did not include Oxbridge-edu-

cated, middle-class women and, what is more, it still does. For too long a small clique of women have assumed that they

narrow experience and speak for all of us. They have been aided and abetted by their brothers (and husbands) in the media. This

is not feminism and it never was. Feminism is about the liberation of all women, not the career development of the already privileged. although it might include this. All women have some things in common but not all things. If we fail to acknowledge the real differences that exist between us by virtue of our class, race, sexuality, disability, age or religion, we will continue to fail to make the changes that many of us want to see.

Humour might help. Yours faithfully, LINDA BELLOS London, N4

Seals of approval

From Mr Waldemar Januszczak Sir. David Lister (front page, 1 November) suggests that Damien Hirst's Mother and Child Divided has been temporarily removed from the Turner Prize exhibition "with a view, perhaps, to the reaction of others unmentioned - animal rights activists, for instance".

What conspiratorial nonsense! The sculpture is indeed being strengthened by new seals, not because it is any sort of danger to

the public, or to protect it from imaginary animal rights protesters, but because it is an important work of British art which all of us want to last not one year or 10 vears, but hundreds of years. Art lovers in the future will be just as keen to see Damien Hirst's work as art lovers today.

Yours sincerely, WALDEMAR JANUSZCZAK Commissioning Editor Arts and Music Channel 4 London, SW1

is important for patients who do not have their own eggs. How-Sir: One thing that no one is con-

sidering in the furore over the selling of human eggs ("Agency 'trades' in women's eggs". 1 November) is how this situation could have been avoided.

The desperate shortage of eggs for treatment has compelled patient groups, clinicians and ethicists alike to devise new strategies for increasing the supply of donors. Whether or not one approves of the actions of the Hope Agency, it is understandable that patients stuck on lengthy waiting lists will resort to desperate measures. Research being conducted in Britain is aimed at developing new meth-ods for increasing the supply of human eggs for treatment and hundreds of patients find them-

This research involves using donated ovarian tissue as a source of immature eggs which can be developed outside the body. Scientists are already able to mature adult eggs through

the final stages (36 hours) of development, an advance which

From Mr Michael Paraskos

Yours sincerely. MICHAEL PARASKOS Head of History of Art The University of York

Scarborough

From Dr Steve Jones

STEVE JONES London, NW1

31 October

ever, much more research is required to make this technique more efficient, to extend it to younger eggs. and to develop methods for cryopreserving (freezing) eggs. so that an egg bank can be established. It will be some time before we

can avoid being reliant on the altruistic women (whether paid or not) who go through painful and time-consuming operations to donate their eggs for the freat-ment of others. But with continued research we are drawing closer to that point. If society does not invest in the future. however, by recognising the importance of basic research and encouraging its continuation. thus avoiding the situation that patients will continue to find themselves in the desperate ciralternative but to pay for donated

> Yours faithfully, JULIET TIZZARD The Progress Educational Trust London, W1

From The Rev David E. Flavell

Sir: Terence Conran tries to make

a special case for Lottery funding

suspicion remains that the

National Lottery distributing

bodies are run by London's Great

and Good, who coincidentally

enough favour spending on Great

and Good projects in the capital.

such as the Royal Opera House,

politan composition of the juries,

we should not be surprised at

their verdicts in favour of grants

for rich men's pleasures in Lon-

don. How many unemployed,

how many ordinary pensioners and how many people from the

provinces (not counting second

homes) are on the distributing

bodies? These people contribute

to the National Lottery - when

capital, it would be better made

before a democratically elected

body rather than a small unrep-

resentative group from the Home

If there is a special case for the

do they get their say?

Given the élitist and metro-

the Globe and the Tate.

He may well be right, but the

1 November

to go to London.

Too big a slice of the pie for London

Sir: It is a novel argument Terence Conran uses to justify all this spending of National Lottery money in London ("London deserves to get lucky", 1 November). While he is concerned for the poor, the largest contributors to the Lottery's funds, his solution is to spend the money in the richest part of the country, apparently to benefit mainly foreign businessmen and tourists. Otherwise they might mistake London for Frankfurt!

While we clearly have a duty to help such geographically-challenged visitors to our country, we need to remember also that our "national culture" is precisely that - national. Concentrating the monuments to this culture in such a rarefied space as London does not, as Conran claims, make them accessible, rather it deprives the majority of people of what is rightly theirs.

University College Scarborough

Yours sincerely. DAVID E. FLAVELL Peterlee, Co Durham

1 November

Counties

Barbaric scientist | Armed response

Sir: I am the Steve Jones referred to by Bryan Appleyard ("A disease that's made in the mind", 31 October) as a "scientistic barbarian". Perhaps it will help your readers to understand why Mr Appleyard is so upset if they learn that the phrase to which he takes such objection ("philosophy is to science what pornography is to sex") was coined by me in a review of his own remarkably silly book, Understanding the Present. Yours faithfully,

From Mr Alan Stableford

Sir: By her own admission, Kate Rankin (letter, 28 October) has caused a potentially dangerous situation to arise as a result of her negligence when driving. The proper immediate response in such a situation would be to assess the situation, concentrate on the job in hand and get on with her journey. A totally incorrect response would be to lose further control by-brandishing her arms around in some arcane gesture of apology. Yours faithfully. ALAN STABLEFORD

Gravesend, Kent

30 October

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, The Independent One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number. (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mall: letters@inde pendent.co.nk) Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

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Fundamentally wrong on families

Their tired proposals ignore history and reason. The middle-aged moralists must be challenged

Tust when we thought family matters

Just when we thought family matters

of marriage. But these trends are only
a partial picture. Most "illegitimate" Government the champions of familjal fundamentalism are once again dominating the political agenda. It began with the Daily Mail's campaign to block the Family Homes and Domestic Violence Bill, then the BBC joined the fray on Tuesday with a tele-yssion essay "Who Killed the Family?" by Melanie Phillips. The programme certainly lived up to its sensationalist title. A ragbag of suspects - Sixties permissiveness, radical feminism, excessive libertarianism and overly liberal divorce laws - were hauled up before her kangeroo court and found guilty.

This was no sober evaluation of the ssues. Instead, home videos of domestic harmony were crudely intercut with slow-motion replays of joy-riding dissolute youths, their masked faces emphasising the gulf between con-temporary dehumanised society and intimate family lives in the past. The argument was one-dimensional and it was abundantly clear who were the good guys and who were the bad. But what was most striking about

the programme was the absence of the voices of people forming families today. As so often, those who lined up to opine about them - from Janet Daley to the Chief Rabbi Dr Jonathan Sacks - were all middle-aged or older. So what of the core thesis on which

the programme was based? Is the family dead and if so who killed it? Few can dispute that family life has changed dramatically over the past 30 years. Most people cohabit before getting married, a high proportion of marriages end in divorce, the number of single parents continues to rise and a third of babies are now born outside cohabiting either as a prelude to mar-

babies are born to ordinary cohabiting couples. Most people are still marry-ing, still having children and still just about managing to sustain long-term relationships. Even after break-ups many people want to remarry or settle down again in the future, and people enter relationships almost as quickly as they exit from them. One survey found that while in a single year 3 per cent of children experienced parental separation, 2.5 per cent saw the arrival of a step-parent or the return of a natural parent. The familial fundamentalists also

The traditionalists

have no grand idea for the family. All they

offer is anger and bile have remarkably little sense of history. They talk of the "family" as if it were a solid, unchanging, easily definable institution which has only in the past few decades undergone earth-shattering transformation. This is nonsense. Family life was far more variable in the past than we have been led to believe. Cohabitation, remarriage and births outside of marriage to common-law couples, were not inven-

tions of the Sixties. Between the mid-

18th and mid-19th century, historians

estimate, as many as one-fifth of all

couples in England and Wales were

riage or as an alternative to it and,



from the 1750s, the rate of illegitimacy rose to unprecedented levels.

But by far the biggest failing of the zealots is their lack of credible solutions beyond rewinding the tape and freezing the frame. Nor are they clear about how to do this. So we're left with an incoherent package of incentives and punishments, carrots and sticks. Single parents are first in line with proposals to cut benefits to force them back to work, and to make qualification for council housing more stringent. Feckless fathers are also targets with some moralists advocating an extension of the principles of the Child Support Act to to punish men further. Others are eager to rein in lib-

eral divorce laws. Such policies lead to absurdities. Penalising single parents would hurt children without improving the stability of relationships. By making divorce harder, relationships between divorcing couples would sour even further, creating difficulties for their children. Even moderate reforms to allow women to evict violent and abusive boyfriends, are deemed unacceptable violations of the institution of marriage.

The traditionalists sense that the winds of change are blowing in their direction. Janet Daley said as much yesterday in the Times. So, as the budget approaches, we should steel our-

als such as raising the married couples' tax allowance. Some Tory ladies might even renew their call for a £1,000 marriage bonus, paid after 10 years of "successful" marriage.

But experience suggests that finan-cial inducements have little, if any, effect on people's behaviour. Divorce is costly and even though women (and children) are hardest hit, they clearly feel that the price of freedom is worth paying because women initiate most divorces.

Nor do incentives look likely to encourage a younger generation to rush to the altar. First-time marriage

We must help people to make deals and compromises instead of apportioning blame

rates are at their lowest possible level since 1889. Nearly half of the women born in the Sixties have cohabited and a fifth of these are expected to give birth while living with a partner.

Beyond fiscal incentives, punishments and moral exhortation, the traditionalists have no grand idea, no practical solutions for strengthening young families or reversing the deterioration of their financial position. Instead, all the zealots have to offer is anger and bile.

Unfortunately, their capacity to fuel moral panic serves to polarise the debate among their opponents - especially an older generation of feminists

selves for a recycling of tired propos- who frequently find themselves taking up equally absurd positions; change is seen as inherently positive, few costs are recognised. Yet both positions are flawed. The familists because their moral authoritarianism means they are unable to cope with diversity and difference. The libertarians because their unwillingness to acknowledge that freedom has brought a new set of problems is motivated by the fear of giving ammunition to their opponents.

What we need now is a debate that

starts somewhere between apocalypse and complacency. A starting point would be an acknowledgement that families come in all shapes and sizes, outside marriage as well as inside, and that greater freedom has brought new problems, as well as new solutions, for cohabiting couples and married couples. But we also need to face the fact that while children need parents – and other adults - if they are to grow up happy, confident and stable, the best way to achieve this is not to bully or cajole unhappy parents to get married or to stay married or to make divorce more gladiatorial. We must help people to make deals and compromises rather than apportioning blame. But perhaps the real challenge is to engender a culture that puts the needs of children first, creating the practical conditions for good parenting rather than moralising over family form.

Of course one piece of legislation

cannot change a culture overnight. But Lord MacKay's proposed divorce reform is an important first step. This is why Major should hold firm against those whose pessimism and lack of vision leads them to seek out scapegoats. After all, if they win who will

A drama worth waiting for ...

About 30 years ago I con-ceived a great desire to write a play like one of Tom Stoppard's plays. I know exactly when it happened. It happened just as I was coming out of the first Stoppard play had ever seen. It happened again the next time, just as I was coming out of the second Stoppard play I saw. It grew to be a habit after a while - in fact. eventually I started getting the urge to write plays like Stoppard's just before I went into

new plays by Stoppard. I never did get round to writing a play like Stoppard at the time. But I did work out the title. It was going to be called Waiting for Stoppard. I wasn't too sure about the plot, although I knew two companions would be sitting around talking a lot of the time - as they tend to in quite a few Stoppard plays. In Beckett plays, too, but I have never enjoyed Samuel Beckett the way I do Stoppard.

What I did achieve at the time was a meeting with Tom Stoppard, and it was a mind-un-settling encounter because it showed to me that what we call Stoppardian is not limited to the stage. My first of very few encounters with the playwright rivals, in its Stoppardian quality, anything he ever wrote.

I was a junior member of the Punch staff at the time, and Tom Stoppard was a guest at one of the regular Punch lunches, weekly events to which the editor used to ask famous people he wouldn't meet otherwise. Normally, I stood around before lunch, bracing myself with alco-hol for the ordeal, but on this occasion I leapt in and secured myself a seat next to my hero. I found myself sitting between him and John Wells, another theatre person I had never met

I knew it was going to be a fairly low-profile lunch for me between these beavyweights of the serious showbiz scene, and so it proved. Wells and Stoppard conversed straight across me about all the arts and showbiz celebrities they knew, more or less ignoring me (who knew none of them) and letting me sink lower and lower in my chair to improve audibility

between them. The conversation started, as I remember, with Stoppard ask-ing John Wells how Eleanor Bron was getting along.
"Oh, she's fine, " said John.

"She's acting up in Newcastle, in a play with John Fortune ..." "She's terribly good," said Stoppard.
"I think John Fortune's

rather good, too," said Wells. "Yes, he's very good," said Stoppard.

"Incidentally," said Wells, "did I hear you were doing some work with Jonathan Miller? I've always wanted to work with Jonathan.

"Isn't he wonderful?" said Stoppard. "Yes. nothing is fixed but I hope to be getting together with him soon ..." Sickening, isn't it? I felt rather

as if I were Enid Blyton who had got caught up with the existentialist mob at Jean-Paul Sartre's table and couldn't even catch the waiter's eye to get the bill and the hell out. But then something happened that made me change my mind. By the time lunch was halfway through, there was a full between the two. almost as if they had now run out of mutual acquaintances to discuss, almost as if, even for such men-about-London as these, there was a limit to the amount of people they knew. So they started filling in a bit of background detail about the people they'd already talked about, with Wells asking first: "So, when did you first run

into Eleanor Bron? There was a small silence, "Oh," said Stoppard, "I've never actually met her, but I



knew you and she were colleagues, so I just thought I'd inquire. Incidentally, you and Jonathan Miller ... how well do you know him?"

"Not at all," said Wells, "it was just that I'd heard that you and he might be collaborating, so I was naturally curious ..

During the first half of lunch the two of them had cemented a new friendship, using as cement the names and doings of their well-known friends. Then they had suddenly discovered they had no friends in common at all, and the second half of hinch was spent unravelling the new friendship, with the cement turning to dust all over the floor, and only me there as a silent chronicler to witness this Stoppardian situation, right down to the moment when the two of them left lunch and departed, the best of strangers.

Was it then that I got the idea have been. Anyway, I have finally written the play and it is on in London for a brief run (until 18 November) at the Southwark Playhouse and, yes, this has turned belatedly into a naked plug for a product, but if it takes me 30 years to write each play, I won't get many chances.

Meanwhile, it would be nice if John Wells and Tom Stoppard came to see the play, though perhaps not on the same night. I'm not sure I could sit through that conversation again.

Edward Lister argues that his borough's pilot voucher scheme will give power to parents

Choice begins in the nursery

Choice is today the most overworked word in the politican's vocabulary. Nowhere is it used more freely than in the education debate.

Education spokesmen from all the parties will say they are in favour of choice. But the furore that re-emerged yesterday over the Government's new vouchers plan for the parents of have some way to go before we are all speaking the same

language.
In Wandsworth we know exactly what we mean by choice. It is not a spin doctor's soundbite but rather a simple philosophy that flows from one central premise: it is parents who have the real power to drive up standards in our schools. In our borough the pilot scheme will give parents of 3,300 four-year-olds vouchers worth £1,100.

At present we still do not have an education system in this country that puts the parent in control. We have a highly structured system that is the result of decades of central planning and weak-knee-ed deference to the teaching unions.

The Government has made great strides towards increasing parental choice. The national curriculum, testing and the publication of school results are all designed to give parents more information about their schools than was

ever possible hefore. With core subjects guaranteed and greater openness bringing improved accountability, schools have been encouraged to diversify. In Wandsworth we now have only one old-style comprehensive secondary school. All the others are offering specialisms that emphasise their own distinctive educational approach. All of these gains have been fought

every step of the way by the unions and their soulmates in the Labour Party. It's the same unholy alliance that is now crying foul over the vouchers scheme. What are they so afraid of? After all, they say they believe in parental choice. But of course they want that choice to be restricted to the current limited range of school types. They do not want poor teachers removed nor failing schools closed. They are afraid of anything that smacks of specialisa-

tion or the dreaded selection. While the debate centres on class sizes and surplus places in existing



schools it will continue to miss the point. For if we are ever to meet parents' proper demands for the right sort of education for their children, then we need more schools. That means new schools of every different type and size. We need different schools in different premises run by different The transfer of funds from the owners. There's only one way to fuel this expansion: by giving parents back

the money the state takes from them for their child's education. That's vhat vouchers are all about. But this genuine marketplace of schools will also need a new attitude from Whitehall. Civil servants who have spent their careers counting pupil numbers will have to ease off. It is no good giving parents a voucher and then children already go to saying it can only be used in the school

their children already go to. Creating a climate in which new proprietors are encouraged to open new establishments will send shock waves through the existing well protected system. There will be no hiding place for the failing school.

The influence of the teaching unions and their ability to obstruct change will never be the same again. The education service is the last big nationalised industry. Schools are already funded according to precise calculations of pupil numbers. They are now ready to take the next obvious step and receive their funding direct from the customer.

It's no good giving parents a voucher then saying it can only be used in the school their

state to the parent would be irreversible. It would benefit all parents - not just those who can afford to pay now but those for whom there is no real choice under the present arrange-

The voucher as a symbol of parental choice will be immensely powerful. For

many parents it will be the first time they have been given any degree of control over their children's schooling. We don't need to create a new wave of Etons and Harrows. Parents' new buying power will, if unfettered by

excessive controls, unleash new types of school that we have never previously seen in this country. Schools set up specifically to meet the needs of a particular sector of the market. The current opposition to the first phase of the nursery education voucher scheme is predictable. For the Labour party it is scarcely surprising

that they should be so fearful of putting power in the hands of parents when even the modest Assisted Places Scheme attracts their venom. Meanwhile the LEA chairmen, it seems, are afraid parents might not choose their

Well, that is what choice is about. Trusting parents is a risky business. They might not act the way we all want them to. That's what the people who run education in our local authorities

But, if LEA schools are offering a

high-quality service that is well regarded in the community, they will have little to fear. Indeed the most successful schools always find the threat of competition invigorating. The scheme is unnecessarily

bureaucratic, some cry. Well, that teacher hasn't said the same about every new procedure. The same was said about is what parents want. One of the reasons my council has been keen to be among the pioneers is to have first-hand experience of how it will work in practice. We will be able to ensure that our own schools are fully geared up for the challenge.

We have our marketing strategy in place. Equally important will be the fresh spotlight thrown on the 130 or so independent providers already active in the borough. It will be a vital test of the publicity programme announced yesterday for parents to have access to information about every possible establishment providing nursery education in their area. The voucher, in common

with almost every other Conservative education reform, will eventually win the backing of all parties. Once politicians see how popular is this transfer of power to the parent they will need no encouragement to join the band-

wagon. Owning a voucher will be just as natural as owning shares in BT. The next few months will show just how streamlined we can make the process of issuing and redeeming vouchers. But the real test is the test

of nerve that is still to come. For if we stop here we will have achieved very little. We must extend the voucher entitlement throughout the school system and - crucially - we must examine the obstacles that still stand in the way of opening new schools. How easy do we want to make it for new providers to emerge? How protective will we be of existing institutions?

Vouchers on their own will not be enough to bring about the real explosion in choice that we are seeking. They will have the effect of changing forever the power relationship between parents and head teachers. But parents will be frustrated if we only provide them with half-choices.

The writer is leader of Wandsworth

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by Tony Reeve and Steve Way Generation Why NO THE INSTRUCTIONS ON LT'S EASY ENOUGH . AUNTIE TANYA DO YOU HER ASTHMA INHALER ... IN ALL THESE CARS, SHE ALWAYS WANTS BELIEVE ME, READ ME A DON'T MIND ? BELCHING OUT FUMES, THE SAME THING TELL ME TANYA, YOU STORY .. THEY'RE DOING TERRIBLE READ TO HER ... DON'T HAVE GOLDILOCKS THUISS TO THE HEALTH TO TELL ME, OFOUR KIDS ... I KNOW ... BIT ABOUT IF

Report: Superman

Therest thing house were

obituaries/gazette

Alan Bush

There was one extra-musical fact that dominated the career of Alan Bush, a fact that alienated and antagonised: his staunch and paid-up membership of the Communist Party. If the bourgeois musical world ac-cused him of sacrificing the purity of art to ideology, then ironically enough it simultaneously refused to forget his politics when it judged his music. But Bush himself was neither

a compromiser nor a relenter. He was not a romantic socialist, like Rutland Boughton and the folk-song revivalists, but a hard-line subscriber to a rigid Marxism which put the requirements of the revolutionary proletariat at the head of the composer's responsibilities. The result, however, was not the brash and brassy populism that one might expect.

Bush was something of a wunderkind and in the 1920s it looked as though he might become Britain's first great international pianist - he studied with three of the most distinguished teachers of the interwar vears. Benno Moiseiwitsch, Tobias Matthay and Artur Schnabel - but composition won out, and from six years of lessons



Photograph: Camera Press

with John Ireland he learnt the sophisticated and restrained craftsmanship which marked his music from the beginning. A work of 1929 for string quartet, Dialectic, has a tightness and austerity of organisation remarkable for a period of Eng-lish music when fulsome lyricism was the norm.

In the early Thirties he studied philosophy and musicology in Berlin, and the experience proved a turning-point. It was here that he came into close contact with Bertold Brecht and Hanns Eisler, whose influence radicalised his political leanings: back in England he joined the Communist Party in 1935 and founded the Workers' Music Association, for which he did sterling work as a conductor. There were still contradictions. His Symphony in C (1939) portrayed in its three movements the bourgeoisie, the sufferings of the working class, and its final triumph, but not in an idiom calculated to appeal to During the Second World

War, Bush was ostracised, and Vaughan Williams once threatened to sever all links with the BBC unless they lifted a ban on the broadcasting of an avowed Communist's music. In the later Forties, he was an enthusiastic visitor to Stalin's Soviet Union and was deeply shaken by the infamous decree of Stalin's controller of culture, Andrei Zhdanov, in 1948 against "formalism and "dissonance" in modern music. "Who accused you of formalism?" he was later asked. "I accused myself," he replied; a remark that speaks volumes about both his isolation in Britain and his monastic severity of temperament.

He resolved to simplify and Williams was thinking when he paid his candid tribute to Bush on his 50th birthday. "Alan won a prize in the 1951 Festi-val of Britain opera competition Bush has rather fantastic notions of the nature and purpose of the Fine Arts. Luckily for us, sional performance in his home when the inspiration comes over him he forgets all about tains rousing choruses as well as this and remembers only the one eternal rule for all artists, 'To thine own self be true'." Bush, needless to say, would have demurred. Rapert Christianser

ballad on the Aldermaston marches, songs for the "Asian Alan Dudley Bush, composer. Struggle", as well as an opera on the trade-union martyr Joe conductor, pianist: born Dul-wich 22 December 1900; Pro-Hill. It is significant that this mu-sic had far more exposure in East Germany than it ever found anywhere further west. Bush was an impressive figure with a penetrating gaze and somewhat unbending manner. His sincerity and integrity could not be doubted, but the unbendingness reaches into his music, too, for all its economy and intelligence. Perhaps his masterpiece is the Violin Concerto of 1948, a work as beau-

fessor of Composition, Royal Academy of Music 1925-78; conductor, London Labour Choral Union 1929-40; founder, Workers' Music Association 1936, President 1941-76; served Royal Army Medical Corps 1941-45; Chairman, Composers Guild of Great Britain 1947-48; author Strict Counterpoint in Palestrina Style 1948, In Seventh Decade 1970, In My Eighth Decade and Other Essays 1980; married 1931 Nancy Head (died 1991; two tiful and refined as any in the genre since Walton's. It was daughters, and one daughter surely of this level of his deceased; died Warford 31 achievement that Vanghan October 1995.

questions than to avoid the

pain the answers would bring. She found her house destroyed,

burnt down again in 1941. She

failed to locate the hoard of sil-

ver which she had buried in the



Pask scores for the British Lions against

Zofia Ilinska

On the evening Zofia Ilinska was born, in what was then the Polish city of Wilno, her father went to church and prayed with such intensity that he was locked in all night. Her life after that was never short of drama. She witnessed a string of episodes which might have made a lesser spirit cautious or bitter, but in her case served only to sharpen her courage, her innate sense of adventure, and the resolve to celebrate the world through her poetry.

On her mother's side, Ilinska was descended from O'Rourkes who had fled Ireland in the 17th century. One branch ended up near Nowogrodek in the west of Russia and it was into this region, one of those perpetually fought-over, ethnically ambiguous pockets of eastern Europe, that Zofia Brochocka was born.

Her early years were austere. The family house had been burnt down during the Polish-Soviet war and the land around it was devoid of horses, cattle. grain, almost any food at all; Zofia's mother fed her on goat's milk while her father. Aleksander Brochocki, started to re- Moseley, an American diplobuild the house. They lived simply; there was never elec- cymoon in St Mawes, on the tricity, and furniture was built south coast of Cornwall. So takforests. that surrounded the estate.

She was 17 when, in September 1939, Soviet tanks rolled into eastern Poland. With hours to spare, she, her mother (her father had died in 1934), and her two brothers escaped on farm carts. For three days they manocuvred through the forest, keeping just ahead of the ad-vance, and crossed the Lithuanian border with bullets splintering the side of the carts.

Arriving in Britain, Zofia began to improve her English. Within a few years she had earned a degree in English literature from Reading University. She was already writing verse, but on her 21st birthday remembered throwing herself on her bed, driven to tears by the thought that Byron was already an established poet by her age. Despite this, she managed during the war to publish, in Polish, two volumes of poetry.

In 1943, while working at the Polish section of the BBC, she married Olgierd Ilinski, a pilot. Within three weeks of the wedding, his plane had been shot down over France, At 23, Zofia Ilinska was a widow. Two years later, she married Harley mat, and they spent their hon-

For the next 30 years, they lived as hotel-keepers.

Ilinska grew to love her dopted home. She was happy to have found in Cornwall a landscape which acted upon her in the way that the forest and the river Niemen had done in Poland. She was unsparing in the time she gave to others, to her family, to the hundreds of people who passed through St Mawes. All who came across her felt drawn in by a rare and rewarding quality of warmth.

Perhaps it was thus to her life that she gave the greater part of her art, and not to her poetry. Yet she always wrote; she wrote - in English now - about those who came to her hotels; she wrote about Cornwall; she wrote about her son who was 22 when he was killed in a car accident; she wrote a poem called "Aikichi Kuboyama" (translated into three languages) about a Japanese fisherman, the first victim of the hydrogen bomb: In water-lapping dactyls water

splashes Against the heart, against the tarstained bow. Aikichi Kuboyama died of ashes.

She wrote about her own cancer, and she translated T.S. Eliot's Murder in the Cathedral into Polish. Her work was the Moscley bought its two hotels. had a meticulous regard for Photograph: Nick Wesolowski

lyrical sense of the language, astonishing in someone for whom English was not her native

ommunicate more broadly.

His first opera, Wat Tyler, which

but failed to secure a profes-

country for over 20 years, con-

a generally more relaxed and accessible style of melody and har-

mony. As well as several

attractive chamber and instru-

mental works, there followed a

Contented though she was in exile, Ilinska remained essentially Polish and always curious about her old home. After Yalta, the land around the Niemen had become part of the Soviet Union and all her attempts to visit it, even to receive news, had falled. But in 1992, after 53 ears, she returned to the newy independent republic of Belarus. It was a harrowing journey but one that she treated with her usual open-

mindedness; it was, to her,

more important to answer the



forest, but she did meet a number of people who remembered her. She also found her father's grave looted and the family chapel collapsed. On her return to Cornwall, she started to raise money to re-

store the chapel, and in summer 1994 went back to Belarus for its re-opening. In her speech she explained to the villagers that the chapel was dedicated to the mory of her father, but that, as a place of worship, it was for them; she told them that her family would never return, that the world she had known there had gone forever. In restoring the chapel, she believed that she had somehow fulfilled herself; that she had, in her own words, 'closed the circle".

Philip Marsden

Zofia Aleksandra Brochocka, poet: born Wilno, Poland 29 October 1921; books include The Idle Rocks 1972, Horoscope of the Moon 1992; married 1943 Olgierd Flinksi (died 1943), 1945 Harley Moseley (died 1982; one daughter, and one son deceased); died St Austell, Comwall 30 October 1995.

Alun Pask

Given how exceptionally gifted a player Alun Pask was, there was a curious sense of unfulfilment about his rugby career. He was one of the great forwards of the Sixties and, briefly, a distinguished captain of Wales but was contentiously denied the ultimate honour of leading the British Isles.

If ever there were a rugby player ahead of his time it was Pask, who gave expression to a sense of athleticism and ballhandling skill quite out of keeping with the norm during his own era, though these days rather commonplace. There was no finer sight in the game than Pask, 6ft 3in and 15st, in full cry with the ball clutched in one hand in a manner which an attacking forward sometimes gave rise to doubts about his willingness to perform the more prosaic defensive duties, though there were a number of notable international occasions when he gave the lie to this misconception.

Pask came out of the dour school of Monmouthshire rugby, was a Welsh Secondary Schools international in 1955 and then had his skills refined at Loughborough Colleges, an eminent rugby academy which has nurtured international players for all the home countries. For a time he was unable to win selectorial favour but eventually after being a travelling reserve on 13 occasions made his Wales debut as a late replacement flanker against France in Paris in 1961, scoring a try. He went on to win 26 caps, all but two in his preferred position of No 8. It did not take him long to

win wider favour. He was a Liou in South Africa in 1962, playing in the first three Tests but missing the fourth because of a cracked rib and earned a worthy reputation as a cerebral type of player reliant more on pace coupled with tactical and positional sense than on brute force,

rapier as opposed to bludgeon. His versatility was such that he could catch and kick as well as any back - a rare accomplishment for a Sixties forward - but if he is remembered for one event more than any other it is his cover-tackle on the French wing Henri Rancoule in the 1962 game in Cardiff. It was, as one account put it, "a spectacular piece of self-advertisement when Pask turned to give chase came to be associated with the and then caught one of the Fijians. Indeed his capacity as fastest men in rugby, thereby saving the game for Wales (who won 3-0) and propelling himself into the Lions tour party.

By 1965 Pask was the Welsh pack leader in the team captained by Clive Rowlands which beat England, Scotland and Ircland to win the Triple Crown for the first time in 13 years, capturing the imagination when he took over with complete assurance as emergency full-back against the Irish.

When Rowlands was dropped in 1966, Pask was the obvious choice as successor and. accompanied by two other players from the Abertillery club, Haydn Morgan and Allan Lewis, he led Wales to victories over England and Scotland. scoring a memorable try at Twickenham with a swallowdive to the corner which was immortalised in a widely reproduced photograph. With Wales two-thirds of

never had a Lions captain and he was widely presumed in the Principality to have been the vic-tim of a hidden selection agenda. Indeed the choice of Mike Campbell-Lamerton of Scotland in preference to Pask was shown to be misconceived when Campbell-Lamerton could not hold his Test place, though for

the way to another Triple

Crown, Pask was the clear

favourite to captain the Lions

in Australia and New Zealand

at the end of that season but

his prospects instantly evapo-

rated when Wales lost nar-

rowly in Ireland and the home

win over France that followed

as a humble lieutenant. At the

time Wales had notoriously

Pask made the tour, but only

made no difference.

the games against New Zealand in Wellington and Auckland it was another Welshman, David Watkins, rather than Pask who was given the captaincy. This was the beginning of a

rapid deterioration in Pask's fortunes. He continued to captain Wales in the next season but after two more matches the leadership was passed to Watkins, under whom Pask played one match before the shock of the early death of his brother David persuaded him to retire there and then, aged only 29.

Steve Bale

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Alun Edward Islwyn Pask, rugby footballer: born Blackwood, Monmouthshire 10 September 1937; Welsh international 1961-67 (26 caps, captain 6 times): British Isles tours to South Africa 1962 (3 Tests), Australia and New Zealand 1966 (5 Tests); died Blackwood, Gwent 1 November

Aleksander Zyw vasion and reached Belgium. He France and Italy for inspiration,

The death of Aleksander Zyw reduces still further the surviving band of distinguished artists born in Poland who enriched British culture by their work and presence from the 1940s, Zyw was a member of the same generation as Feliks Topolski and Josef Herman, born a decade later than Henrik Gotlib and Jankel Adler. Zyw's distinctive contribution to European art began in the 1950s in works which were meditations on nature's forms and forces.

Zyw was born at Lida (then in Poland, now in Belarus) in 1905. He studied law and art history at university in Warsaw before going on to the Academy

of Fine Arts, from 1926 to 1932. He then travelled in Europe, notably to Dalmatia. Greece and Italy, before settling in France in 1934, and establishing a studio in Paris. At this time he specialised in landscape, working both in oils and other media. In 1939 he enlisted in the Polish army in France, in which he served until the French surrender. He then escaped to Britain, and rejoined the Polish army.

Zyw was appointed as war artist to the Polish forces, a job which he carried out with considerable success. He served in Britain, went across the Atlantic, took part in the Normandy in-

worked mainly on small drawings in ink and wash, recording the everyday routines of soldiers, as well as scenes of more significant military events. A set of drawings in a similar style and technique was published in 1945, as Edinburgh as Seen by an Artist. Edinburgh became his main home after the end of the war until the 1960s, when he began to spend an increasing amount of time at his house and studio in Italy.

After the war Zyw married Leslie Goddard; they settled in Dean Village, in Edinburgh. He established a firm reputation as a Scottish painter, drawing on his pictures "jewelled and rich in colour and figures", so described by Douglas Hall, the Keeper of the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art. But his most remarkable pictures were still to come, when in the 1950s he began work in a more austere way, taking objects as points of departure for sombre and abstracted imagery; at first pebbles, clinker and olive wood, in pale colours, greys, browns, blue-greys and blue-greens. An important series of nearly 100 works was devoted to water, inspired by the River Leith, of which some were shown at the Talbot Rice Gallery in Edin-

burgh in "An Instant of Water" in 1975; and a series on air, painted between 1976 and 1980. was a further example of his individual interpretation of elements and natural forms. The Scottish National

Gallery of Modern Art, where his work is rightly well represented, honoured him in 1986 with an exhibition of which the catalogue is called Aleksander Zyw: The Nature of Painting. Joseph Darracott

Aleksander Zyn; artist: born Lida, Poland 14 September 1905; mar-ried Leslie Goddard (two sons); died Castagneto Carducci, Italy 17 September 1995.

Births, Marriages & Deaths

DEATHS

GIFFORD: Margaret Lactitia (Letty), widow of Charles, Peacefully after a short illness on 2 November 1995, and Aldeburgh Hospital, Suffolk, Sadly missed by her children Patrick, John, March 1998. Mary, William and Andrew, her grandchildren and her many friends. Funeral at Aldeburgh Parish Church, on Friday 10 November at Ipn. Fol-lowed by a Wake in the Church Hall. All welcome, Donations if desired to Jubilee Opera, Co Aldeburgh Cinema, 51 High Street, Aldeburgh,

MENDEL: Thomas Owen, peacefully, at home, on 31 October, aged \$7, much-loved husband of his late wife Val and dear father of Torn, Service variand olar jamer of ion. Service at St Michael's and All Angels, Wey-hill Road, Andower, at Ham, Hiesday 7 November, followed by cremation. Flowers (If desired). Undertakers Messrs Halcrow, Andower, telephone 01264 335255. RIP.

PASHLEY: David George, suddenly, on Sunday 39 October 1995, aged 50; Head of Business Administration, Thames Television International, since 1982. Dearly lowed and deeply mourned by his family and the many who enjoyed the warmth of his friendship and affection, and for whom his death brings an irreplaceable loss. Private funeral at Newport, Isle of Wight, today, 3 November, Family flowers only please. Donations if deflowers only please. Donations if de-sired to Imperial Cancer Research Fund, & William Hall, Funeral Di-rectors, Springbank, Winford Road, Newchurch, Sandown, Isle of Wight, 1902a 013.

For Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS please telephone 0171-293 2011 or fax to 0171-293 2010, Charges are £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

Forthcoming marriages

Dr D. E. H. Edgerton and Dr C. A. Elliott

The engagement is announced between David, elder son of the late Mr Herbert Edgerton and of Mrs Alicia Edgerton, of Bristol, and Claire, daughter of the late Mr Andrew Elliott and of Mrs Ruth Elliott, of

Birthdays

Mr Adam Ant, rock singer, 41; Mr Kenneth Baker, MP, former govern-ment minister, 61; Mr John Barry, musician and composer, 62; Mr John Biffen MP, former government min-ister, 65; Mr Charles Bronson, actor, 73; Mr Nicholas Budgen MP, 58; The Earl of Caithness, former Minister of State for Transport, 47; Mr Francis Cook MP, 60; Sir Kenneth Corley, former chief executive, Joseph Lucas, 87: Miss Violetta Elvin, former prima ballerina, 70; Mr Roy Emerson, tennis player, 59; Mrs Jean Floud, former Principal, Newn-Jean Floud, tormer Principal, News-ham College, Cambridge, 80; Mr Michael Gallemore, former Editor. Sporting Life. 51; Sir Philip Goodhart, former MP, 70; Mr John Heppell MP, 47; Mr Larry Holmes, heavyweight boxing champion, 46; Sir Ludovic Kennedy, writer and broadcaster, 76; Sir Christopher Leaver, wine merchant, and former Lord Mayor of London, 58; Viscount Linley, firmiture designer, 34; Lulu (Marie Lawrie), singer, 47; Maj-Gen Viscount Monckton of Brenchley, banker, 30; Mr Kenneth Morgan, former trade-union leader, 67; Ma mer trade-union leader, 67; Mr Conor Cruise O'Brien, editor, author and politician, 78; The Hon Michael Pakenham, diplomat, 52; Sir Timo-

thy Raison, former MP and governnt minister, 66; Mr James Reston,

author and newspaperman, 86; Mr Albert Reynolds, former Irish prime minister (Taoiseach), 62; Mr Nick Simper, rock musician, 49; Mr Vanni Treves, senior partner, Macfarlanes, and chairman BBA Group, 55; Vice-Admiral Sir John Webster, former Flag Officer, Plymouth, 63.

Anniversaries

Births: Karl Baedeker, guide-book publisher, 1801; Vincenzo Bellini, op-eratic composer, 1801; André-Georges Mairaux, writer and politician, 1901. Deaths: Annie Oakley, entertainer and markswoman. 1926; Henri-Emile Benoit Matisse. painter, 1954. On this day: the Act of Supremacy was passed, making the king head of the English Church, hing head of the English Church, 1534; Laika, the Russian space dog, was sent into space in Spatisk II, 1957. Today is the Feast Day of St Amicus, St Hubert, St Malachy of Armagh, St Martin de Porres, St Pirminus, St Rumwald and St Winifred or

National Gallery: Mari Griffith, Twilight (i): Goya's small witchcraft Victoria and Albert Museum: Olivia Callea, "Heavenly Cloth: design and decoration of Japanese textiles",

Service of the Order of the British Empire

The Queen has commanded that a Service of the Order of the British Empire be held in St Paul's Cathedral at 11.30am on Wednesday 8 May 1996. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, Grand Master of the Order, will be present.

Those belonging to the Order and

holders of the British Empire Medal who wish to attend should apply for a ticket giving their name, address, appointment (GBE, KBE, DBE, CBE, OBE, MBE, BEM) and other decorations in block capitals as soon as possible and not later than Friday 8 March 1996, to the Registrar, Order of the British Empire, Central Chancery, St James's Palace, London

No tickets are available for snous es who are not members or Medallists of the Order, or guests, due to the size of the Order and the limited seating capacity in St Paul's

Synagogue services Details of synagogue services to be

held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 4.15pm. begins in London at 4.15pm.
United Synapogues: 0171-387 4300.
Pederation of Synapogues: 0181-202
2263. Union of Liberal and Progressive
Synapogues: 0171-580 1663. Reform
Synapogues of Great Britain: 0181-349
4731. Spanish and Portuguese Lews
Congregation: 0171-289 2573. New
London Synapogue (Masorti): 0171-328

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

Changing of the Guard

Wife unable to prevent sale of home by bank

another; Chancery Division (Mr Justice Laddie); 19 October 1995

A wife with young children is unable to prevent the sale of the former matrimonial home by

her husband's creditor if the husband's interest in the home has been charged to the creditor and she is unable to show exceptional circumstances. Mr Justice Laddie dismissed

an appeal by the second defendant, Kathy Joyce Hendricks, from deputy Master Powell's order that the defendants' former matrimonial home be sold for not less than £200,000 and that the defendants deliver to the bank possession of the property.

The bank was owed sums of money by the first defendant who was married to but separated from the second defendant. The first defendant had moved out of the matrimonial home into another house owned by the second defen-dant. A charging order absolute had been made and the bank obtained the deputy Master's order under section 30 of the Law of Property Act 1925 for the sale of the home. On a sale and after discharging sums due under a mortgage and other costs, the bank would recover £20,000 or 20 per cent of the first defendant's debt.

LAW REPORT

3 November 1995

The second defendant, who must be occupied by the spousdid not wish to move to the other house, appealed against the order on the ground that the court should exercise its discretion to defer sale until the two children of the marriage reached 18 or finished full-time education. Michael Sullivan (Harry I. Alkin &

Co) for the bank: Nicholas Yell (Steven Fisher & Co) for the second

Mr Justice Laddie said that it followed from Lloyds Bank v Byme (1991) 23 HLR 472, which referred extensively to Re Citro [1990] 3 WLR 880, that the interests of the chargee would prevail over those of the spouse save in exceptional circumstances. Re Halliday (a bankrupi) [1980] 3 All ER 384 could be distinguished as a case where there were exceptional circumstances which justified the innocent spouse's interests prevailing over those

of the trustee in bankruptcy. In Re Citro and Lloyds Bank v Byrne the courts held that the houses were held by the spouses on trust for sale subject to a collateral purpose that it should be their matrimonial home. In order to be so enjoyed it

es jointly. The purpose could only exist while the spouses were not only joint occupiers of the home but joint owners of it as well. Once that collateral purpose had disappeared, there was nothing left to prevent the interests of the trustee in bankruptcy or the chargee from being pre-eminent.

It was apparent that the only collateral purpose on which the second defendant could rely, namely that the house was to be retained as the matrimonial home, had ceased to exist both because the first defendant was no longer living there and, more importantly, because the first defendant's interest as co-owner had been charged to the bank. He had therefore alienated his interest in the home. It followed that the second defendant must show the existence of exceptional circumstances if her desire to remain in the house was to prevail over the bank's wish

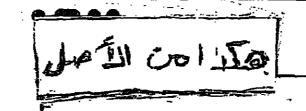
The second defendant was in a comparatively favourable position. She had another house which she owned and moving would not even involve the chil dren in changing schools. There were no exceptional circumstances here. The recovery by the bank of some 20 per cent of its debt could not be dismissed as trivial. The bank was entitled to an order which

would allow it to sell the house. The period before the innocent spouse had to give up possession should be such as to allow sufficient time to facilitate departure without adding unnecessarily to the distress and dislocation which would be suffered. However, any such period should be as short as possible and any period more than a few weeks should be avoided if it was likely to cause significant hardship to the chargee. The order would require the second defendant to vacate the house by the end of the second week in January 1996 so as to enable a move

over the school holidays. There was no doubt that the court had power to remove the restriction on the sale price if it felt that that was appropri-ate. It would not be appropriate to remove the limit on the sale price now. However if a sale at or above the limit could not be achieved the property would be sold for such other figure as was agreed between the bank and the second

Ying Hui Tan, Barrister

defendant.



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CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

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Utilities merger: Secretary of State dismisses OFT case for Monopolies Commission referral

Lang clears Norweb takeover

PETER RODGERS

lan Lang, President of the Board of Trade, yesterday cleared North West Water's £1.83bn agreed bid for Norweb, after overruling John Bridgeman, the new Director General of Fair Trading,

Mr Bridgeman wanted the deal referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, contrary to the views of the water and electricity regulators. One of the grounds for a reference put forward by Mr Bridgeman, suffering his first setback after only a month in the job, was that he was concerned about managerial efficiency in the new organisation. Mr Lang said: "I have carefully considered the director



Sir Desmond Pitcher: Firm's assurances eased takeover

agerial efficiency, but I do not accept this as a reason for referring the merger.

The OFT refused to give any detail about its managerial con-

cerns over the North West Water bid. Neither would it say whether it was referring to the risk that the management could not cope with the new organisational structure after the merger, the first between a water and electricity utility.

DTI sources said that the OFT's concern arose because this was the first multi-utility merger, which it regarded as an 'unknown beast'

Top of the list of promises given to Mr Lang by North West Water as a condition of cleurance is that it will ensure there are sufficient financial and managerial resources to allow the regulated water and electricity businesses to fulfil their statutory functions.

Mr Lang's decision clears the last obstacle to the takeover by North West, chaired by Sir

Desmond Pitcher, which yes- both regulatory and competition terday had 45 per cent of Norweb, four days ahead of the closing date on Monday.

Mr Lang's decision to overrule his new director general was also based on his concern about the problems of regulating the combined water and electricity utility, and the possible barriers it would build to entry by other companies into the husinesses.

The announcement is bound to reinforce the City view that the remaining two electricity bids awaiting clearance - Pow-erGen for Midlands Electricity and National Power for Southern - will also be waved

through.
Professor Stephen Lit-tlechild, head of Ofwat, and Ian Byatt, his opposite number at water, opposed a reference on

grounds. They told Mr Lang that the problems could be tackled through licence amendments. North West Water has given assurances to satisfy these concerns - which are the subject of detailed agreements with

the regulators.

The assurances include ring fencing of the regulated busi-nesses, a proper flow of information to the regulators and a promise that there will be sufficient financial and managerial resources allocated to them so they can carry out their statutory obligations.

North West Water has agreed that charges made to the individual electricity and water concerns by a proposed joint billing and services company will be checked - through market testing - against the going rate for

is among conditions that will be reflected in regulatory licence amendments.

The approval marks a conunuation of Mr Lang's policy of allowing open season on electricity company takeovers. However, he reiterated his statement in August - when he cleared the takeover by Southern Group of the US of SWEB. Hanson of Eastern, and ScottishPower of Manweb - that all the power bids would be considered case by case.

The rebuff for Mr Bridgeman is the first to the OFT since February when Michael Heseltine ignored the advice of the then director general, Sir Bryan Carsberg, to refer the Hasbro takeover of Waddington. Sir Bryan's advice was overturned three times during his tenure.

Lottery sets back growth in economy

DIANE COYLE Economics Correspondent

Lottery fever has slowed the pace of economic growth over the past nine months, it

emerged yesterday.

The National Lottery has taken billions of pounds out of the economy and has cut into spending on other items. The latest official statistics show that in the first half of this year spending on entertainment and recreations such as cinemas and trips to leisure centres, confectionery sales and sales of soft drinks all fell significantly.

The Treasury, responding to new research by a City of London economist, admitted that the Lottery had been very much pected and must have reduced the economy's growth. But it was impossible to quantify ex-

"It is pretty much anybody's guess what the significance of the effect is," a spokesman said. He said it was "a bit far- tres - was 7.5 per cent lower fetched" to suggest that any change in policy was required just because of the Lottery.

However, David Mackie. economist at the merchant bank JP Morgan, said yesterday that he estimated the Lottery accounted for a third of the fall in growth from about 4 per cent last year to less than 2.5 per cent

in the most recent quarter. "Billions have been taken out of the economy and put into the bank. People have been very reluctant to acknowledge the truth of this," Mr Mackie said.

Sales of Lottery tickets since the launch on 19 November 1994 have amounted to nearly £3.3bn. Of this £1.6bn has been given back in prizes, but little of this money has been spent. Winners have put most of it in the bank.

Another £1bn is sitting in the National Lottery Distribution Fund. It could take another year

before significant amounts are disbursed from the fund to ood causes. Only £50m has been distributed so far, with the rest meanwhile helping to keep down the Government's hor-

rowing requirement this year. Peter Westaway, an economist at the National Institute for Economic and Social Research, one of the leading independent research groups, agreed. "Growth must be lower because of the Lottery," he said. Earlier this week Lloyds

Bank's chief economist said flutters on the National Lottery had cut retail sales growth by up to 2 per cent. Lottery spending is not counted in retail sales figures but is part of total consumer spending.

ed categories of consumer spending. For example, the latest available official statistics actly what its impact had been. show that in the first half of this year spending on entertainment and recreations - such as cinemas and trips to leisure centhan in the same period last year. Confectionery sales fell 2 er cent and sales of soft drinks by 0.7 ner cent.

> Charities estimate that contributions they have received since the Lottery started are about £275m down on what they would otherwise have been.

On Wednesday Baird Menswear Brands, a clothing firm in Hartlepool, blamed the Lottery for a sales downturn that led it to cut 290 jobs. Clothing and footwear sales have risen modestly in the latest three months, according to than overall retail spending.

Recent statistics have confirmed that the slowdown in the economy has continued, especially in manufacturing. Some economists have begun to argue that interest rate cuts are now required to stimulate the econ-

Per Lindstrand, the balloon designer, and Richard Branson, head of Virgin Group, spent the day in Derby yesterday at the Rolls Royce Aero Engines plant. A team from Rolls is helping them design, build and test a miniature engine that will

Branson goes global

Top earnings climb by 8.8%

during a planned two-week circumnavigation of the globe in a balloon. They will travel in a pressurised steel capsule at up to 35,000 feet, and be propelled by the jet stream to speeds of

as much as 250 mph. The balloonists previously courted disaster during a dan-

gerous trans-Atlantic crossing that ended in a crash-landing in the sea off the coast of Ireland. But Mr Branson insists that the current project will be meticulously planned. The trip is scheduled to start by late

Cordiant confirms rights issue plans

MATHEW HORSMAN Media Editor

Cordiant, the holding company that owns Saatchi & Saatchi, confirmed yesterday that a rights issue was "imminent" and was "a top priority" for the struggling advertising group. But insiders insisted that no

terms had yet been agreed on the size and structure of the issue, signalling that estimates that they would seek to raise as much as £133m were too high.

"It is too early to say what the share-to-share ratio will be," a spokesman said. "Therefore. the amounts are not set."

Shares in the company closed unchanged yesterday at 84p, hovering just above their peak for the year. Analysts said they expected few share price movements until further news of the size and pricing of the rights issue was available.

The newly named chief executive, Bob Seleert, is to exchange his bonus for shares in the issue, to underscore his commitment to the company. It is believed other senior execu-

tives will follow suit. Cordiant, whose name was changed from Saatchi & Saatchi earlier this year, has been suf- Scott and Mr Seleert succeeds.

fering ever since the departure of co-founder Maurice Saatchi late last year. The defection of several key clients early in 1995. including Mars, the confectioner, and British Airways, helped to drive earnings down, culminating in a loss of nearly £30m in the first half of the year.

The current management, led by chairman Charlie Scott and Mr Seelert, are looking at ways of cutting costs and winning new business. An injection of fresh equity is believed to be crucial to confirm a recovery in time to benefit from a more buoyant advertising market in 1996. Elections next year in the US and Britain are expected to lead to a looser monetary policy, bolstering consumer confidence and sparking an increase in advertising spend.

David Herro, the controversial fund manager who sparked a boardroom battle last year over Mr Saatchi's pay, is to take up a full complement of shares under the rights issue. His fund now owns just under 10 per cent of Cordiant. Other institutioninvestors are expected to follow suit, in order to ride the stock back up in the event that the restructuring ordered by Mr

Fresh evidence that corporate "fat cats" are enjoying increased rewards at a time when other employees are being urged to exercise restraint comes with the publication today of figures taken into account). showing that top executives' pay rose by 8.8 per cent, more

than twice the current inflation rate, in the past year.

The latest annual report on UK boardroom pay by the re-

ROGER TRAPP

muneration advisers Monks Partnership also shows that the number of top directors earning more than £1m rose by almost 20 per cent, from 16 to 19. Among the newcomers to the "million-pound club" are Sam Chisholm, chief executive of chairman of the builders' mer- per cent or more.

chants Wickes; Sir Christopher Lewinton, chairman of the industrial conglomerate TI and Sir Ian McLaurin, chairman of Tesco (who has previously enjoyed earnings of about £1m struction, where executives in when pension contributions are

The median rise in total earnings for the highest-paid director - usually the chairman or chief executive - reverses the trend of the past five years, when increases declined from 17.3 per cent in 1989 to 5.8 per cent in 1994. However, the rises were not universal. According to the analysis of the annual reports of nearly 1,500 listed companies in circulation in mid-September, about a quarter received no increase, while BSkyB; Henry Sweetbaum, another quarter received 13

Three-quarters of the highestpaid directors saw their total earnings increase over 1994. The biggest change occurred in building materials and conrecent years have seen the smallest increases in total pay. In the past year, their pay rose

an average 12.5 per cent. Ninety per cent of industrial and commercial companies with more than £400m turnover operate annual bonus plans for board directors, although only about half the companies in the study actually paid a bonus. The typical bonus in the industrial sector was 19.2 per cent of fixed pay, while in the financial sector it was 23.2 per cent. However, developments in

corporate governance on the back of the Cadbury and

Greenbury reports are producing changes to companies' incentive plans. About 90 per cent of companies have executive share option schemes, but increasing numbers are moving towards longer-term incentive plans, which may reward directors with company shares in-

stead of cash. David Atkins, editor of United Kingdom Board Earnings, said the small rise in the number of highest-paid directors earning more than £1m could be attributed to two factors. First, performance criteria used to calculate bonuses were more stringent. Second, more large companies, where the potential million-pound earners are likely to be found, are introducing

MPs ready to attack Bank and SFO

The Serious Fraud Office and the Bank of England are both expected to face criticism from the Treasury and Civil Service Committee report into City regulation that will be published next week. But it will stop short of proposing a radical reform of either.

Close observers say that while the report may appear to a watered-down version of what some members wanted, the fact that there is cross-party criticism at all of both organisations reflects the general dissatisfaction at Westminster with their performance. One member said:

These two organisation will be awaiting this report with some trepidation." Criticism of the Serious mance before them earlier this

Fraud Office will focus on its handling of the Levitt affair, although there may be veiled criticism of its general performance in handling financial fraud. One member, who declined to be named, said yesterday there was a feeling the SFO lacked confidence and had the look of an organisation shying away from taking on high-profile prosecutions".

The criticism will be measured. "I would like to have seen stronger concern expressed," a

MPs on the committee feel that the SFO's director, George Staple, put up a weak perforyear when he denied he had personally misled the Attorney-

General, Sir Nicholas Lyell, over Roger Levitt. Sir Nicholas, taking advice from Mr Staple, told Parliament that no deal had been reached with Mr Levitt, the financier, in the run-up to his trial. It has since been alleged that this was a misleading statement. Mr Levitt was given 180 hours' community service after plead-

ing guilty to a minor charge. There is no call for Mr Staple's resignation in the report.

Levitt affair, partly because the MPs saw their duty to make observations about the City institutions themselves rather than

the personalities that run them. Criticism of the Bank of England will centre on its handling of the Barings affair. The MPs have considered taking responsibility for supervision away from the Bank but have stopped short of recommending that in the report.

The committee has said that it intends to re-open its inquiries into the Barings affair in the New Year and to a certain extent is reserving judgement un-

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Gold S	382.00	wich	383.70	GDP	106.6	2.4pc	4.1	20 Nov

241.70 -£0.38 233.59 Base Rates - 6.75pc 5.25 Source: Datastream

IN BRIEF

Banks 'failing to report fraud'

Banks in the City of London are "sweeping crime under the carpet" and failing to report fraud to the police to avoid embarrassment and harming their reputations, financial investigators revealed yesterday. Many of the banks are still being duped by criminals using simple frauds, which have been known about for years, said William Taylor, Commissioner of the City of London Police. Mr Taylor was speaking at the launch of an anti-fraud campaign, called Fraudstop, to help City financial organisations prevent crime. Last year the value of fraud cases handled by the Serious Fraud Office and the Crown Prosecution Service was

Cheap imports cost 600 jobs

The rising tide of cheap clothing imports from the Far East, eastem Europe, and Mediterranean countries has claimed 600 jobs at the William Baird textile company. Almost half of the job losses are at the men's suits factory in Hartlepool, one of the UK's worst unemployment blackspots where one in seven are out of work.

£400m road contracts awarded

The Department of Transport has awarded £400m of road-building contracts to three consortiums under the private finance innative, in a move the Government hopes will counteract a growing row over Budget cuts that will hit direct government spending on roads. Companies involved include Amec, Alfred McAlpine, Trafalgar House, Wimpey and Morrison.

Trial of Nadir aide postponed

The trial of Mrs Elizabeth Forsyth, the former aide to Asil Nadir, has been put back almost a month. It is now scheduled to start on February 12, rather than the original date, January 16. Mrs Forsyth has been charged on two counts of handling stolen cash, worth nearly £400,000, in 1989. She denies the charges.

House prices continue to rise

House prices edged up by 0.1 per cent in October, the third month in a row that they have risen, according to figures from Halifax Building Society yesterday. The increase comes despite a drop of 0.3 per cent for the same month recorded in a separate survey from Nationwide Building Society.

Talk Radio investors sell

The North American investors in Talk Radio, the recovering alltalk commercial radio station, are selling their shares at a loss, learning Media Ventures International solidly in control. Both Canwest, Canadian backer of one of the failed bids for the new Canwest, Canadian backer of one of the failed bids for the new Canwest, Canadian backer of one of the LIS are soll. Changes 5 licence, and Emmis Broadcasting of the US are selling their 24.5 stakes to MVI. The move follows disagreements over the over the stategic direction of the station and a decision by Can-West to a stategic direction of the station and a decision by Can-West to concentrate on broadcast media in the UK.

Slowdown temporary, says forecaster

The slowdown in the economy will be temporary, the London Business School predicts in a new forecast published today. It thinks bistings with the statement and consumer spending will Units higher exports, investment and consumer spending will make British to the G7 economies next year. make British the fastest-growing of the G7 economies next year.
In a firming the fastest-growing of the LBS says growth In a forecast more optimistic than many, the LBS says growth will recount the continues of will recover to 3.1 per cent after a 2.7 per cent increase in 1995.

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'On a number of fronts, this is a decision full of little ironies and mysteries. Until now, the Office of Fair Trading has consistently recommended that

bids for electricity

cleared'

companies should be

North West's power pitch proves persuasive

Sir Desmond (I-speak-to-the-Prime-Min-lister-at-least-once-a-week) Pitcher, clearly has to be taken seriously after all. Somehow or other the chairman of North West Water has persuaded Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, to go against the advice of the new Director General of Fair Trading and allow North West's ill-judged £1.8bn bid for Norweb to go through without a reference. For the new DG, this is quite a slap in the face. Only four weeks into the job, he has had his first high-profile piece of advice rejected.

On a number of fronts, this is a decision full of little ironies and mysteries. Until now, the Office of Fair Trading has consistently recommended that bids for electricity companies should be cleared. John Bridgeman, new to the job, is entitled to his own view and wants to be seen as his own man. In any case, this is the first cross-utility bid. Even so, it is hard to see why he should turn his back on precedent - the more so because in this case, unlike the others, Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, actually swung the other way and recom-

Indeed, in the search for explanations, the Littlechild factor might seem as good as any. Sensing a popular cause, the new director-general, a little wet behind the ears, must have taken the view that the thing to do was the opposite of what the electricity regulaited. Seriously though, in the absence

the OFT's or the Secretary of State's thinking on all this is, it is only possible to spec-

Certainly what was being said by the Department of Trade and Industry yesterday failed to cast much light on the darkness. Barriers to entry, regulatory issues, and concern about "management efficiency" were cited as the reasons the OFT wanted a reference. But as to what any of these things meant, the OFT hid behind the usual con-

The DTI was a little more obliging but not much. If anything, concern about "management efficiency" seems to be a veiled warning that Sir Desmond and his crew might not be able to cope with managing both a water and an electricity utility.

Given the high price Sir Desmond has been forced to pay to secure utility domi-nation of the North-west, there may be something in this.

To make this deal work, North West has to push through deep, deep cost cuts. There is doubt that the joint facilities management operation foreseen, a company that will lie outside the regulated structure of both industries, will be up to the job.

Even so, as mergers policy, such concern is a curious throw-back to old-fashioned concepts of public interest. In the "anything goes" mergers environment of today, the only test is meant to be competition, and even that doesn't seem to be taken too seriof any adequate explanation of what either i ously judging by some recent DTI decisions.

of as Mr Lang's (or are we still talking about Michael Heseltine here?) poodle, it is odd that someone who was chosen because he was once a businessman should find himself so out of sync with government thinking.

Stock Exchange's veil rent asunder

Trired old institutions can only fend off A criticism with the claim that they are busily engaged in a grand strategy review for so long. The London Stock Exchange has been grandly reviewing for as long as most people care to remember. The promised outcome, however, slips and slides with the passing seasons, and the mutterings of discontent grow louder.

Yesterday, they broke with a roar. Rudolf Mueller, head of the Union Bank of Switzer land's operations in London, finally went public on what he has been saying privately for a long time - that the Stock Exchange has condemned itself to the increasingly diminishing role of a local trading empo-rium. In doing so he has done more than raise the temperature of debate over the Stock Exchange's future

As a former member of the Stock Exchange council he has delivered a devastating blow to the already battered prestige series of unseemly rows, provoked by the of a once-proud, landmark institution in the Stock Exchange, with fledgling rivals such as us about it.

It is fitting, given the changing face of the City, that it should have been the representative of a powerful foreign firm who finally rent the veil of public reserve.

Mr Mueller is in fact only voicing what a great number of those with an interest in the City - Stock Exchange member firms, government officials, ministers and regulators - have been discreetly saying for ages. This is, that times have moved on, the City has been transformed, and the Stock Exchange has lamentably failed to keep up.

When the City was a gentlemen's club, and merchant bankers and stockbrokers did their business wearing Union Jack boxer shorts, the London Stock Exchange occupied a commanding position of authority and

It was one of the most powerful and pres-tigious trade associations in the country. But the City is no longer that British; it is the world's pre-eminent international financial centre, where big foreign firms increas-ingly call the tune. That is its strength, but it is one from which the exchange has failed to draw sustenance. It has become increas-

function efficiently. Instead, the impression is of an institution that is drifting without a clear sense of purpose. The view has been reinforced by a

ingly hard to make the trade association

While it is easy to understand why Mr | City. Now it is just proud, and that is the nub | Tradepoint and ESI/Sharelink. The Bridgeman should not want to be thought | of the problem. exchange's response has smacked of an abuse of regulatory power for its own ailing competitive advantage.

The most common criticism is that while the City has reinforced its position as Europe's financial capital, the London Stock Exchange has fluffed the chance to take the lead in forging an alliance of European exchanges. Instead, it saw no reason why it should share a cake it considered largely its own. The result is that it is now forced to watch helplessly as increasingly large slices of international equity business are won back by the rival continental exchanges.

Seaq International, the exchange's facility for international share dealing, flourished while places like Paris and Frankfurt languished in the dark ages. The rivals are much more efficient operations now. From 1 January, when an EU directive permits "remote" dealing on European exchanges from just one, home, base, Seaq international is likely to see a further haemorrhage of foreign business.

The blame for this paralysis should not be put on Michael Lawrence, the Stock Exhange's chief executive, or its chairman, John Kemp-Welch. By all accounts, both find hard to move forward an organisation

debilitated by in-fighting.

But to persist on this defensive, introspective course is a fatal. If it has a vision of the future, the Stock Exchange should tell

Retail turmoil: Do It All undoes the good work at the chemists while a plunge in sales triggers fighting talk from the supermarket battlefield

DIY woes send Boots into slump

NIGEL COPE

Boots highlighted the patchy nature of high street spending yesterday when it reported healthy sales growth in its Boots the Chemist chain but disastrous results at its DIY businesses. which are being ravaged by the

housing slump.
Boots's chairman, Sir Michael Angus, said: "The retail trading environment remains difficult and while the housing market remains depressed we should expect little good news in that area." Boots shares fell 11p to 540p on the results and analysts downgraded their full-year forecasts.

The company also made no plans for its £410m cash pile. The chief executive, Lord Blyth, said the company was seeking acquisitions in Germany for its health-care business but if no suitable targets could be found it would not hesitate to return cash to shareholders. Last year Boots returned more than

£500m to shareholders. Boots the Chemists enjoyed strong trading, with like-for-like sales up by 4.5 per cent in the six months to September. The

of sun creams, which were up 17 per cent. The re-launch of the No 7 brand of cosmetics in February also increased sales.

Boots confirmed its support for resale price maintenance on over-the-counter medicines in spite of the challenge by Asda and the pending Office of Fair Trading inquiry into the system. Lord Blyth said: "We believe that the removal of resale price maintenance would mean a big cut in the number of smaller, independent pharmacies."

He added that far from shying from a fight with the su-permarkets Boots was well placed to cope with a price war. He pointed to the battle over prices live years ag when Superdrug cut prices. creased sales by 22 per cent and also increased its market share.

Asked why Boots did not support Asda's attack on the resale price maintenance system if it stood to benefit from its abolition, he said: "You have to understand that there are some organisations that don't always behave like a predator.

performed strongly, lifting op-



omer success: Boots the Chemist's sales have been lifted by sun cream demand

erating profits 13 per cent to company is still closing stores £163m, the company's other retail business remain under

Boots's share of losses at Do It All, the DIY joint venture with WH Smith, increased from sales also fell 4.5 per cent. The

The high street decorating chains, Fads and Homestyle, performed even worse, with like-for-like sales slumping Although Boots the Chemists £1.8m to £4.8m. Like-for-like more than 13 per cent and

Boots plans to increase investment in its health-care business by 50 per cent in the second half of the year. This forced analysts to downgrade

their full-year profits forecasts by around £20m to £495m. Group pre-tax profits for the six months to September fell

Photograph: Tony Buckingham

from £290m last year to £228 this time. The fall was largely due to the sale of Boots Pharmaceuticals to BASF of Germany last year for almost £1bn. The company said the final settlement was subject to

arbitration. Investment Column, page 26 high street, where the compa-

Sales plummet at Kwik Save

TOM STEVENSON Deputy City Editor

Kwik Save disappointed the market with a sharp fall in likevowed to take the fight to the grocery superstores if the feared supermarket price war escalated. Battling talk from Graeme among the supermarkets: "He Bowler, the chief executive, is saying that he will undercut wiped 69p from Kwik Save's share price, which closed at 609p, dragging the rest of the food retail sector lower - Sainsbury fell 12p to 391p and Argyll

slipped 11p to 301p. Mr Bowler said it was too early to say how long a recent resurgence in the supermarket price-cutting war would last. We have got to see what happens through Christmas. We are in a very important trading period right now and this sort of activity is not unusual pre such

a big spending period." His comments accompanied its to £125.5m in the year to July. The outcome was worse than expectations and prompted analysts to downgrade forecasts for this year and next. Nat West Securities, which had been expecting £140m this year, has now pencilled in £128.5m. Next year's £160m estimate has been

reined in to £145m. The profits fall was the first for Kwik Save, confirming the severity of problems on the

ny is squeezed between the superstores, which are increasingly competing on price rather than range, and new entrants at the bottom, like Aldi and Netto.

One analyst said Mr Bowler was moving Kwik Save into the same position that Asda had taken up over the price war any of the supermarkets, and he will probably win but there are such things as Pyrrhic victories." Mr Bowler admitted that 350

of Kwik Save's smaller stores. more than a third of the 979 strong portfolio, were performing badly. Capital expenditure doubled in the year to £200m, partly to fund a refurbishment programme for the problem shops, which Mr Bowler said had already reversed the sales fall in the redesigned outlets.

Although overall sales increased by 7 per cent to £3.2bn. most of the improveme from new openings and the acquisition last year of Shoprite Volumes were 3.4 per cent down and price inflation ran at just 0.8 per cent over the year. Profits were hit by a £6m loss

from the acquired Shoprite stores, the cost of closing down two distribution centres and other one-off property costs. Although earnings per share fell 10 per cent to 51.7p, the dividend rose 4 per cent to 20p. Investment Column, page 26

£50m lost in bonds' bear market

The City's top ten gilt-edged mar-ket makers collectively lost a total of more than £50m during the bear market for bonds in 1994, it emerged yesterday. Several of the City's biggest

names, including BZW, Goldman Sachs and SBC Warburg, were among the biggest losers. They lost almost £60m.

The only big gainers were Lehman Brothers (£16.6m) and Salomon Brothers (£5.6m). The market makers' heavy

losses, caused by the US decision to raise interest rates in Februarv last year, followed substantial profits for most in 1993.

The extent of the losses come as Angela Knight, the Treasury Minister, told a conference of gift

market specialists that Government reforms would now make eilts even more attractive for domestic and overseas investors.

Gilt-edged market makers' problems were cruelly exposed by the Federal Reserve's sudden decision last year because many held long positions on bonds. Hopes of a recovery were dashed after bond and gilt prices refused to rally throughout 1994.

Among the losers in the year to the end of December was BZW, which turned a £28.1m profit the previous year into a £19.2m loss. BZW's woes were made worse by its exposure to sterling gilts from Confederation Life, the Canadian insurer that collapsed in August.

Goldman Sachs managed to turn a loss of £6.1m in the year

to December 1993 into a loss of £34.6m the following year. The company yesterday confirmed the figures but declined to com-

ment about them. SBC Warburg also revealed a loss of £6.3m in the year to December 1994, compared to a smaller loss of £3.4m in the previous 12 months. Kieran Lynch, head of gilt trading, said the company's year-end period meant that losses in 1994 appeared in both year's accounts. The picture would have been different for the calendar year of 1993, he added. A number of market makers

who declined to be named, claimed that it was difficult to compare company accounts because each one was prepared in a slightly different way. Some included elements in

them other than gilt dealing Philip Howard, managing director of Lehman Brothers. which saw a £16.6m profit in the year to November 1994, said: "Our market share was going up and we were getting a better feel of the business than before. We also made a particular effort to understand the international business outside the UK. Finally, the traders had a very good

right way for much of the year."
At the conference yesterday. organised by Nat West Gilts, Mrs Knight said: "We have set about a major overhaul of the way that Government debt is managed. It will make things more attractive for investors without tying up the

call on the market and were able

to keep their position looking the

Trading scandal: Official Japanese displeasure casts doubt over bank's future

Daiwa likely to lose independence

RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

Seven weeks after owning up to trading losses of \$1.1bn, Darwa Bank looks increasingly isolated from the Japanese financial establishment, amid rumours that its days as an independent bank may be numbered.

The bank this week submitted detailed reports to both the US Federal Reserve and Japan's Ministry of Finance, justifying the two-month delay bctween learning of the losses at 11 Its New York branch and informing the American banking authorities.

It denied a cover up, and said that the extraordinary gap was necessary to investigate fully the debately debacle that resulted from 30,000 illegal trades conducted over 11 years. The report to the

US Reserve admitted ordering the trader, Toshihide Iguchi, to continue the illicit trades, but claimed that this was to prevent him from "escaping".

An "improvement plan", including proposals to improve the bank's internal inspection systems, was publicly rejected by the Ministry of Finance, an indication of its anger at Daiwa's handling of the affair. The ministry's elite bureaucrats have been humiliated, after admitting that they knew of the staggering losses six weeks before they

were made public. After a wretched year, in which a handful of credit unions and smaller banks have gone under, the Daiwa affair has further undermined confidence in the banking system, leading to an increase in the so-called "Japan premium", an addito Japanese banks. The Finance Minister.

Masayoshi Takemura, last Japanese banks in the pensions month made a contrite phone call to Robert Rubin, Secretary to the US Treasury, and a senior official has been dispatched to New York to "explain" the irregularities. The ministry's recent position appears to be an attempt to reassert its flagging authority, and to punish Daiwa for dragging it through the

Earlier in the week, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, which oversees Japan's immense postal savings system, announced that it was reducing its investments with Daiwa by 10 per cent, with further reductions a possibility. Last week the country's biggest pension fund manager

tional lending charge on loans froze new investments with the bank, an ominous sign given Daiwa's status as leader among business. The Ministry of Finance exerts huge behind-thescenes influence on such institutions: it is unlikely that such decisions could have been made without its knowledge and approval.

In such an atmosphere, Daiwa's long-term prospects are in question, and speculation is rife about a possible merger. Among the rumoured candidates are the Industrial Bank of Japan, Nomura Securities, and Fuji Bank.

In banking circles, Fuji is considered a particularly plausible possibility since it lacks a large number of branches in the Osaka area where Daiwa has its headquarters and power base.

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SEAO VOLUME

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN Edited by TOM STEVENSON

Rich Boots prepared for a scrap

Boots: at a glance

15.0

400

Asda's price-cutting antics in the med-icines market have created a cloud over Boots' share price. Having enjoyed a good run early in the year they have slumped by almost 10 per cent since Archie Norman started to portray himself as Medicine Man.

But it is an over-reaction to suggest that Boots would struggle if resale price maintenance collapsed and the supermarkets sparked a price war.

Boots is well placed whether RPM stays or goes. Just as the Net Book Agreement suited WH Smith, the price maintenance on non-prescription drugs is very convenient for Boots. It is quite happy to cream off chunky margins on maintained prices. But as the largest pharmacy chain, with 1,200 of the UK's 12,000 pharmacies, it could use its marketing and buying muscle to cut prices and grow market share if a price war broke out. It would be the smaller, independent pharmacies

that felt the pain. Boots has already proved it can scrap with the best of them after its run-in with Superdrug over discounted perfumes a few years ago. The group's real problems are the weak housing market, which is crippling its DIY businesses, and the burning question of what to do with its £400m cash pile.

Boots must be thankful that the chemist chain is motoring nicely. Of the group's £196m operating profits in the six months to September, Boots the Chemist accounted for £164m.

Like-for-like sales were up 4.5 per cent, a laudable performance given high street gloom.

Sales of sun creams were boosted by the summer heatwave and the No 7 brand of cosmetics performed strongly after a February re-launch.

Elsewhere, it was a pretty sorry tale. Losses at the Do It All joint venture with WH Smith almost trebled to £4.8m. Losses also trebled at the AG Stanley business, which includes the Fads and Homestyle high street stores. Like-for-like sales fell 4.5 per cent at Do It All and by a thumping 13 per cent at AG Stanley. Like-for-like sales at Halfords are flat and down slightly at Children's World. Not very cheerful.

Given Boots' Ward White experience, which saddled it with many of its current turkeys, it seems unlikely that the group will countenance a retail acquisition with its cash. The two most likely possibilities remain a deal to bolt on to Boots Healthcare International, or a second share buy-back.

Analysts were downgrading forecasts yesterday but this was due to investment plans at Boots Healthcare International. Boots plans to increase investment in its Healthcare business by 50 per cent in the second half. NatWest Securities is forecasting profits of £495m for the full year, which puts the shares, down 11p to 540p yesterday, on a forward rating of almost 16. Unexciting but fair,

Kwik Save runs to stand still

There is a nice irony in the market slashing 10 per cent from the market value of Kwik Save yesterday, a 69p fall to 609p - an everyday low price for a company whose 979 stores are selling a litre of bleach for a ludicrous giveaway 7p. The loo cleaner is plainy a bargain - whether the shares are such good value is less clear.

Graeme Bowler, Kwik Save's ebullient Australian chief executive, found olenty of excuses for the disappointing performance in the year to August. but they don't make Kwik Save's future any clearer.

It is still squeezed between the superstores gearing up for another price war on the one hand and the conimental discounters on the other. Although sales were up 7 per cent

to £3.2bn in the 12 months, the

Earnings per share (pence) 38 269 277

Dividends per share (pence) 12.4 13.4

Net cash (debt), £m

Five-Year record

Pre-tax profits (£m)

1995/96 6 manth

3 per cent as lower volumes were only slightly offset by price inflation. Most of the increased turnover came from new stores - 128 were added in the period - and the addition of Shoprite. The Scottish discounter, however, contributed a negative £6m to pre-tax

profits of £125.5m, a 7 per cent decline, while earnings suffered even more, down 10 per cent to 51.7p. The 4 per cent rise in the dividend to 20p, although well covered, appeared to be justified as much by reaching a

nice round figure as anything more Kwik Save is having to run extremely fast just to stand still. Capital expenditure doubled during the year to £200m, partly to fund what looks like a rather desperate rearguard action to tart up 350 underperforming smaller

The problem outlets, which were suffering a 6 per cent like-for-like sales decline, have been turned around to a 7 per cent increase but the cost in hard cash, downtime of about two weeks per refurb and management

effort has been heavy. Analysts were busy with their red pens yesterday and Nat West Securities now expects flat profits of £128.5m this year and £140m next time. At that

Share price, pence

1994/95 1995/96

227.9

5:7

Shell facing chemicals glitch

The oil giant Shell has looked less sure of itself of late. Since the radical management shake-up and cost-cutting rogramme initiated by BP in mid-1992, its shares have been left in the shade compared with its arch-rival's.

Shell's own cost reductions have had less effect on the bottom line, so recent profits performance has been heavily dependent on the worldwide recovery in the chemicals business which started last year.

There are now worrying signs that could be slowing.

Yesterday's nine-month results continued to reflect the dowry of soaring chemicals earnings, which chipped in £769m of the £1.18bn increase in group net earnings to £3.61bn. But the third-quarter figures told a different story. Although chemicals earnings doubled to £317m over the same period of last year, they were well down on the £398m achieved in the second three months of 1995, suggesting at the very least a hiccup in the upward trend.

All the damage came outside the US. where earnings slid 29 per cent on the back of weaker demand and thinner

Shell warns that the weaker chemicals market is likely to continue into 1996, but believes the current glitch does not herald a cyclical downturn. That prediction is dependent on increased demand absorbing the increased output from previously shut-down plants and hence world growth continuing to be strong.

The story is similar in refining and

marketing, where earnings bounced back, rising 13 per cent over 1994 to £513m, despite a difficult market. But continuing chronic over-supply in Europe and looming capacity increases in the Far East do not bode well for next year. Upstream exploration and production earnings, down just 2 per cent at £344m, held up well before a £32m charge for the sale of some Columbian

Full-year earnings of £4.75bn would put Shell's shares, down 16.5p to 729p, on a prospective multiple of nearly 14. With a forward yield of 5.2 per cent they are worth holding, but BP may continue to prove more exciting.

Simon Pincombe CITY DIARY

Government opens gates for a Railtrack windfall

The hidden element of the rail privatisation equation can at last be revealed. The Government has quietly raised the fines for leaving the gates open on pre-1845 level crossings - from £5 to £1,000.

Given that there are 400 pieces of this railway heritage still littered around the country, the substantial hike in penalties (which was pushed through Parliament in the past couple of weeks) could result in a significant windfall for Railtrack, the soon-to-be floated track operator. If all the crossing gates are left open only once a year it will mean £400,000 extra revenue if the offenders are caught.

The move is unlikely to be greeted with much enthusiasm by farmers, country folk and the Ramblers Association, who will shortly find themselves funding muchneeded investment in tracks and signalling.

Further haemorrhaging from Greig Middleton. Britain's leading private client broker is selling its Channel Islands operation to Collins Stewart following reports of an imminent mutiny. A total of 33 staff, including seven brokers, were about to jump ship from the Channel Island and Isle of Man offices, citing Greig's unwillingness to fund corporate work as the last straw. Collins Stewart, a Londonbased broker, is backed by

Singer & Friedlander. While it might sound parochial this will prove extremely awkward for Greig. The offshore patch is a highly lucrative one with a huge client base. It also fol-



Mr Gamble may care to ex-

lows the defection of 11 staff from the firm's Birmingham office last month.

Circumstantial evidence indicates that the cost-cutting at Royal Insurance may have gone a touch too far. Richard Gamble, the urbane chief executive, has taken to saving newspaper discount vouchers. Dining in the City the other night he surprised guests by pulling out a snappy little wallet containing a series of Financial

Times vouchers. Presumably the Royal no longer runs to the 65p cover price. This is not the first time that Mr Gamble has demonstrated the frugal side of his nature. The proud possessor of a Morgan sports car, he

grounds that he could not get it insured. Something to do with a

once admitted that it rarely

left the garage on the

failed MoT.

The harsh line adopted by the National Lottery operator on

illegal overseas players may need some rethinking. You will recall that Camelot has pledged to withhold prize money if

winners are found to be non-UK residents. Indeed, so popu-

lar is the UK lottery in Thailand (their own lottery pays out a

measly £6,500 or so) that organised syndicates are charging

up to five times the price of a £1 weekly ticket. The money is

paid in advance and front men buy the tickets at high street

demand for sterling in Thailand is now a factor supporting

the pound. One for Kenneth Clarke to pouder.

However, senior bankers are privately urging caution. The

for a copy of this Saturday's FT. A piece planned for the weekend section in praise of rollerblading should make interesting reading. The article was penned by Gillian Tett, the paper's economics correspondent and a keen rollerblader. Unhappily, Ms Tett will be reviewing the final product from the safety of her hearth. She has since fallen off her rollerblades and broken her ankle.

change one of his vouchers

First Leisure, the disco operator, is unimpressed with Lord Alexander of Weedon, the National Westminster Bank chairman who also leads the House of Lords Deregulation Committee. John Conian, First Leisure's chief executive, complains that the committee's decision not to consider a fast-track repeal of the 1780 Sunday Observance Act - which imposes strict drinking and dancing laws - is a bit rich given NatWest's plans to operate Sunday banking. "My lord speaketh with forked tongue," snapped Mr Conlan.

The committee is unruffled. "Perhaps Lord Alexander feels that the cash machines will make less noise than discos." retorts a committee spokesman.

Take a day trip to France for £25 with the

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AKE a day trip to France and you can stock up for Christmas in style and comfort. Our bargain break is with Hoverspeed and allows a car and up to five passengers to travel from Folkestone to Boulogne for £25 inclusive. For travel on Saturdays there is a £10 supplement and though Boulogne is the main destination there is a limited availability

Your crossing will be aboard the high-speed SeaCat, a lux-urious craft that offers a huge range of duty-free savings on festive goods. Offers exclusive to Independent readers include a free Chivas Regal hip flask with every purchase of a bottle of Chivas regal for £17: a free Piper Heidseick Cool Bag with every £25 twin pack and a free gold-embossed champagne stopper with every bottle of Krug, priced at £49.55.
Boulogue abounds with dozens of fine food and wine out-

I. The day trip can be taken 16 November 20 December 1995. To participate you must complete a booking form the be published on 1 and 4 November 1995 and send it to the address on the form with 4 differently manifered tokers. All booking forms must be returned by 18 November 1995. Minimum postal booking notice is 14 days. EuroSare will endeavour to despectan fickets at least 10 days prior to despectation.

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Maximum of 5 people per car - no trailers, caravans, minibuses or transit vans are allowed within the terms or this otter. Travel must take place as indicated on the tickets.

Valid passportsystas are required.

Carnege by sea is subject to jerms and conditions of the carner copies of which are available on request.

Carriage by sea as subject to learns and conditions of the carrier copies of which are available on request French Bank holidays are 1 and 11 November 1995. Supermarkers in France will be open on Sundays from 10 December

Terms and conditions

lets, including the finest cheesemongers outside Paris. A must, however, is The Grape Shop. This excellent wine merchant. voted hest Cross-Channel Outlet 1995, is offering Independent readers a free bottle of House Champagne when they

To book your day trip you must collect four differently numbered tokens from the seven we will be printing in the Independent and the Independent on Sunday. We are printing Token 6 today and the booking form will appear in tomor-

row's edition of the Independent. For those who wish to travel simply as foot-passengers, the day trip may be booked for £1 per person. To qualify for the £1 offer, each foot-passenger must collect four tokens. Com-plimentary tea and coffee will be served to car passengers trav-elling to Boulogne. The offer is subject to availibility.

∠eisure group gets Snowdome

JOHN SHEPHERD

The diversified First Leisure group has added another string to its bow by buying the Snow-dome, Europe's first large realsnow indoor ski-slope at Tam-worth near Birmingham.

John Conlan, chief executive, said the company planned to build larger versions of the Snowdome, and had, in effect, blocked the path for competitors by buying the UK and Irish rights to the secret snowproducing and refrigeration process developed in Australia.

The Snowdome, which is profitable, has a 150m slope with a snow depth of 16cm. Talks are being held with an unnamed

Leisure strategy of concentrating on mass market, and lowinterests include ten-pin bowling, discos, bingo, amusement arcades, and health and fitness clubs. The typical cost for using the dome is £10 to £14 for a twohour session. Customers can also

learn to snowboard. First Leisure is not disclosing the price of the acquisition. Analysts said, however, that the company would have had to pay at least £5m. News of the deal accompanied a trading update, which generally showed the leisure market is still price-sensitive and the pace of the climb out of

recession remains slow. Despite that confirmation, analysts were encouraged and underscored forecasts of a rise in taxable profits from £36m to £39m for the latest financial year, which ended on Tuesday.

Attendances are continuing to increase in several businesses, although the hot summer impacted adversely at operations in Blackpool - the company's main resort area. "We don't tour operator to offer nondaymakers an all-in package of learning to ski in the UK before taking to the slopes in Europe.

Taking to the slopes in Europe.

Taking to the slopes in Europe.

Taking to the slopes in Europe.

Taking to the slopes in Europe.

Taking to the slopes in Europe.

Taking to the slopes in Europe. is still affecting bingo clubs.

The growth in attendances is price leisure operations - other still not quick enough to give the company confidence to raise prices by anything more than inflation. There are signs, however, that consumers are willing to spend more on drinks and food when they go out.

COMPANIES IN BRIEF

Dresdner profits rise

Dresdner, the German bank that bought Kleinwort Benson earlier this year, announced a 13.6 per cent increase in operating profits after risk provision in the first nine months of the year. Dresdner enjoyed the rise to DM1.5bn (£682m) thanks to a rebound in trading profits and a 45 per cent lowering of risk provisions. Own-account trading rose to DM536m in the first nine months compared with a DM15m loss previously. Dresdner said that it will split responsibility for its global investment banking business, with Kleinwort taking control of non-German equities and the international advisory business. Dresdner will keep control of fixed income, forex and derivatives business.

Azian seeks cash for acquisition

Computer services group Azlan is to raise £20.4m in an open offer underwritten by SBC Warburg to finance the acquisition of Ronin, a network computing distributor, for £6.95m. It also announced interim pre-tax profits of £4.4m, four times the £1.1m achieved in the comparable half year, and said it had had a strong start to the second half of the year. Earnings per share were 13.6p (3.7p) and the dividend increased 20 per cent to 1.2p.

Bellway faces housing difficulties

Housebuilder Bellway warned that conditions since the beginning of the current financial year had remained difficult but an increase in the number of developments meant private house sales were up on the same period last year. Planning delays were having an adverse effect on return on capital and with the challenging market conditions was putting pressure on margins. Pretax profits in the year to July were £34m (£28m), struck from sales of £267m (£201m). Earnings per share were 21.4p (17.3p).

BP provides for US environment

BP's third-quarter results next week will include an exceptional charge of \$385m (£244m) in respect of the sale of its refining and marketing interest in the north-eastern US to the Tosco Corporation. Half of the total is to provide for potential environmental liabilities. BP expects proceeds of \$235m for the assets and crude inventories. sets and crude inventories.

ICI's China expansion

IC1 has announced two new plants in Shanghai at a total cost of about \$440m (£379m). IC1 Polyurethanes is setting up a joint venture with a local company to establish a "world scale" factory to supply MDI, used in the refrigeration, building insulation, footwear and furniture industries. The investment will be around \$400m, with the rest of the total accounted for by a second Chings operation for IC1 Paints. The new rite will be in ond Chinese operation for ICI Paints. The new site will be in the Songjiang industrial zone in Shanghai in a joint development with Swire Pacific.

	<u> </u>	SULTS		
	Targover E	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend
Azina (1)	72 7m (37.7m)	4.4m (1.1m)	13.6p (3.7p)	1.2p (1p)
Bellezy (F)	267m (201m)	34m (28m)	21.40 (17 30)	7 7p (7p)
Books (i)	1 94m (2.04m)	228m (290m)	15.9p (20.2p)	5 7p (5.35p)
Celsis International (1)	1 72m (0 30m)	-2.9m (-2.2m)	4.11p (-3.7p)	Dil (CBI)
Fratierick Cooper (F)	87.9m (89 1m)	4.0m (6.3m)	3p (6.2p)	2.79 (2.50)
Essex Faretture (F)	25.8m (17.7m)	1.04m (1.41m)	5.95p (8.05p)	4.3p (4.3p)
Gerrard & National (1)	51 2m (47m)	12.1m (11 1m)	15.6p (14.4p)	8p (Bp)
hitersurage (F)	6.51m (8 77m)	0 40m (0.41m)	5.17p (3.49p)	7.8p (7.8p)
Kwik Save (F)	3.23bn (3.02bn)	126m (136m)	51.68p (57.29p)	20p (19.25p)
Royal Dutch/Shell (03)	23 6bn (21 6bn)	1.12hn (0 B5m)	11,6p (9.8p)	· (-)
J Smart Contractors (F)	17.64m (17 16m)	3 44m (1.65m)	23,140 (10,020)	9р (8.5р)
Westminster Scattolding (I)	1.55m (2.47m)	-0 62m (-0.95m)		(d) (dil)

Bardon sells marine division for £72.3m

NIC CICUITI

Bardon Group, the quarrying and aggregates group, has sold its marine aggregates unit. Civil and Marine, to ARC Marine, a subsidiary of Hanson, for

Bardon, which admitted yesterday that it was facing difficult trading conditions in the UK, said the sale left the company with a "sound financial structure." Peter Tom, chief executive, said: "With a more robust balance sheet we will have much more flexibility in developing our four mainstream businesses, all of which have strong positions in their re-spective markets." Gearing is

expected to fall to 45 per cent. Civil and Marine Holdings made an operating profit of £5.5m in 1994 and had not as-

The acquisition, subject to Bardon shareholder approval, will consolidate ARC's position as Europe's leading producer of sea-dredged sand and gravel.

David Snowdon, chairman of ARC, said: "This important move increases our presence in Europe, where we trade at 12 ports, and gives us a firm footing in the important Thames "C&M has a major presence

in the London area, where we expect further growth.

Since 1990, supplies of ma-rine aggregates to mainland

Europe have increased sub-stantially. This acquisition com-plements our existing business." Derek Bonham, Hanson's chief executive, added: "This acquisition fits well into our strategy of building up our businesses by bolt-on acquisition and

Day trip to France

MINDEPENDENT

ber 1995.

11. If a car can not be allocated to Boulogne, it will be allocated to Calax, Colax, to Soulogne is a 30 minute dine.

12. The offer is only valid, for day tips, return tickets will be validated on outward crossing.

13. Photocopies of tokens are not acceptable.

14. For anguese on the day trip offer cell, 01304 240176, Mon-Pri 9am -5.30pm, No relegations bookings will be accepted on this number.

market report/shares

DATA BANK FT-SE 100 3523.0 +4.3 FT-SE 250 3886.8 -1.7 FT-SE 350 1752.8 + 1.5SEAQ VOLUME 710.8m shares. 26,884 bargains Gilts Index 94.04 +0.35 SHARE SPOTLIGHT

share price, pence

Asprey

Supermarket chains have reached their sell-by date TAKING STOCK

The high riding supermarket chains have reached their sellby date. The investment rush to the checkouts gathered pace yesterday, leaving the shares of the industry leaders dejected and demoralised.

The interim figures from J Sainsbury are responsible for the ragged retreat. They demonstrated that the supermarket groups are coming under increasing pressure and the shares no longer deserved their

glamour rating. Sainsbury was a "rude awakening" for many in the market, said one broker.

The four supermarket leaders represented approaching a sixth of stock market volume with Asda alone responsible for a remarkable 37.9 million turnover. Tesco commanded approaching 19 million; Argyll more than 17 million, Sainsbury 9.5 million. The cut-price shares struggled to get support. Asda fell 4.25p to 95.5p (after

94p) and Argyll lost 11p to 301p after hitting 292p. Tesco lost 7p to 286p and Sainsbury went to 391p, off 12p, representing a two day fall of 33p.

The results from Kwik Save failed to spray around any confidence, leaving the discounter's shares limping 68p lower at 610p. Boots, off 11p to 540p, added to the retail gloom while Marks & Spencer, apparently suffering from Bar-clays de Zoete Wedd caution, lost 10p to 407p.

The supermarket carnage clipped more than 3.5 points from the FT-SE 100 index which, inspired by New York, managed to improve 4.3 to But as most retailers wilted,

Asprey, the jeweller, sparkled to 127p, up 19p. Stories flowed that bid action was imminent with a Far Eastern buyer preparing to strike. A man-

MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

Stock market reporter. of the year

lapsed from 375p as the jeweller plunged into losses but the group, also embracing Garrards and Mappin & Webb, appointed Ian Dahl, ex Marks & Spencer, as chief executive in

Essex Furniture failed to resist the retail retreat, falling 3p to 102p with profits down from £1.4m to £1.04m. The company is currently completing an 18 month accounting period. There are hopes profits could top £3m in the next full year. Kingfisher was also in form as it completed its US investment presentations to 15 institutions. The shares rose 2p

next year by Charterhouse Tilney helping sentiment. Sources close to the group rejected suggestions it planned to barge into furniture retailing.

Albright & Wilson, the chemical group, fell bp to 154p, only 4p above February's scaled down flotation price. There is talk of profit downgrades in the air. Fears of trading gloom at David S Smith, the packaging group, lowered the shares 16p to

rose 40p to 920p as a 1 million buy back of "A" shares was announced Rolls-Royce, the aero engine group which has been finding the altitude too rich,

managed a 1p gain to 153p. The group is apparently engaged in a series of investment meetings, hoping to nullify a bearish stockbroker report which has pulled the shares back from above 190p. TSB put on 5p to 381p on

continuing speculation about a counter bid to the Lloyds Bank deal: Forte rose op to 255p as an institution picked up shares at 253p.

Lonrho was unchanged at 154.5p as Dutton-Forshaw, the group's main car dealership, was said to be the next disposal larget of crusading chief executive Dieter Bock. Evans Halshaw, the garage group, reversed a further 20p to 298p

with Ryland off 5p at 79p.

Telspec, the electronic group, jumped 110p to 1,045p; a 300,000 share trade by Credit Lyonnais Laing at 1,000p caused the excitement. Tadpole Technology rose 6p to 80p on talk a significant contract will

accompany the announcement of the forthcoming figures. United News gained 15p more to 532p as the departure of Sir Nicholas Lloyd as editor of the Daily Express heightened talk

the newspapers will be sold.
Whitehall clearance of North West Water's £1.8bn swoop on Norweb was announced as the market closed. NNW firmed 2p to 997p and Norweb was up 30p at 1,185p. On the lively insurance pitch

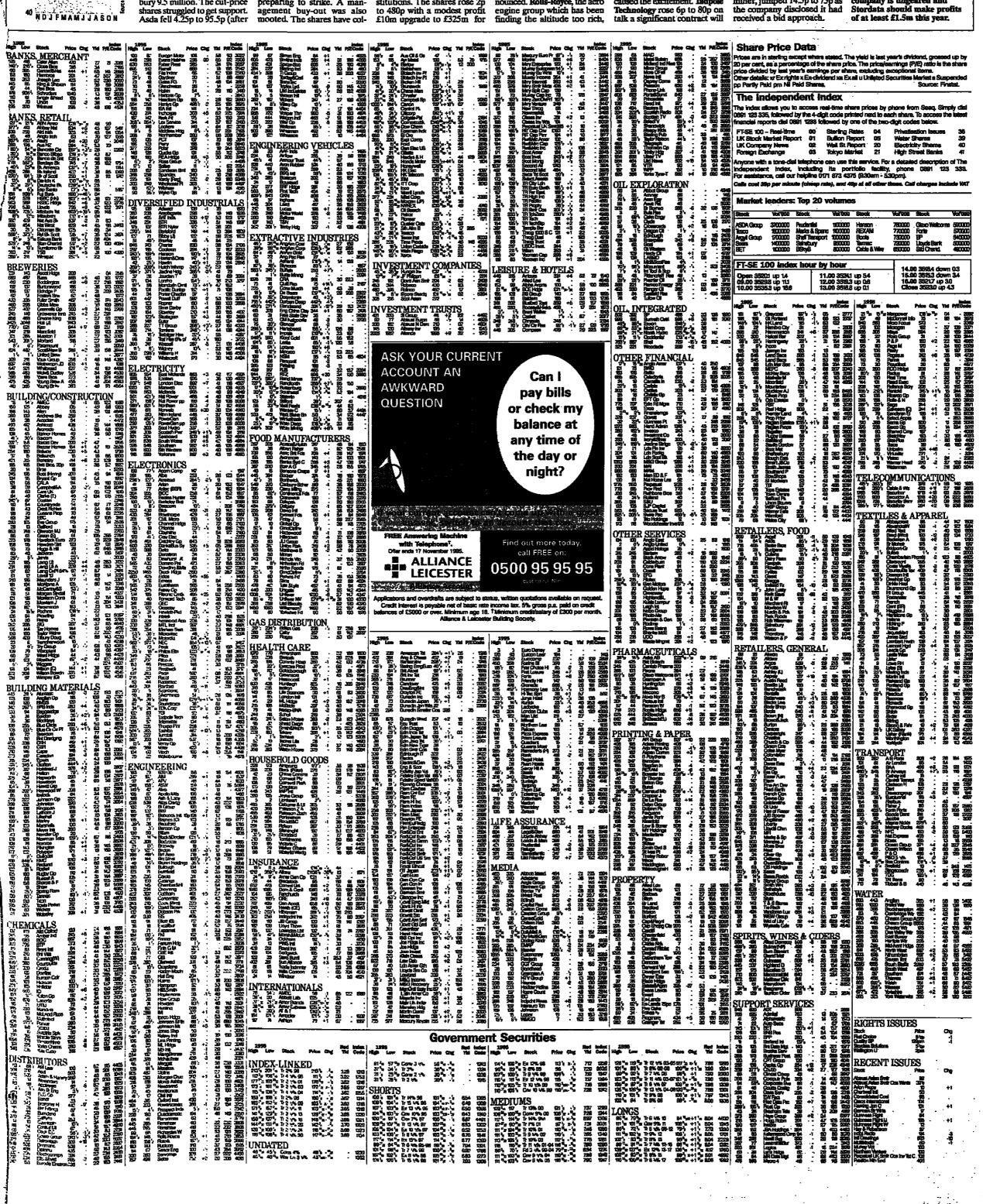
GRE, helped along by an analyst meeting and talk of a German strike, gained 9p to 240p. In oils Shell, off 17p at 729p. reflected a cautious trading statement.

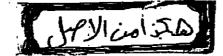
Cortecs ained another 2p to 120p. After a £2.8m loss this year. Greig Middleton expect profits of £1.1m and then £17.5m.

Chiff Resources, the gold miner, jumped 14.5p to 75p as the company disclosed it had

☐ Shares of Queensboron Holdings, the aspiring leisure group ran by Kevin Leech, the charman of ML Laboratories, are expected to be sus-pended today. The group has agreed a leisure takeover which will be partly financed by a £12.5m rights issue. Mr Leech is taking up his entitlement and hopes to lift his stake to 29.9 per cent. Queensborough, unchanged at 1.25p on the USM, is expected to return as a fully-

☐ Stordata Solutions, the computer data group pumped is expected to revitalise the car alarms operation and expand the data side, possibly through acquisitions. The company is ungeared and





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Sherwood sits on fence with Action

Racing **GREG WOOD**

It is not often that a horse making his seasonal debut over fences in November is quoted in single figures for the Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham the following March, but then, in the hurdling division at least, this promises to be a very un-

Alderbrook is injured and may not make it to the Festival, while Relkeel and Danoli have already been ruled out entirely. Montelado, Mysilv and Fortune And Fame have tried and failed before, and River North has yet to jump a hurdle in public. As a result, Large Action, a runner in the novice chase at Uttoxeter this afternoon, is as low as 8-1 for the Champion Hurdle when, if he runs at the Festival at all, it is as likely to

be over birch as timber. Not that Oliver Sherwood, Large Action's trainer, is ruling anything out. "He's born to go chasing, that's what it's all about and if you leave it too long they can get into bad habits and they'll never go chasing." Sher-wood said yesterday. "He's been hurdling for two seasons now so we've got to have a try. He's schooled well, though he'll never be flambovant like The Dikler or Desert Orchid. He's

"But I'm not saying that he Double Trigger, the Ascot Gold

won't go back to hurdling if others drop by the wayside. I can't envisage any problems with that, he's too much of a professional, but if punters want to back him for the Champion Hurdle I'd advise them to do it with a run."

Unfortunately, none of the Champion, but it is worth pointing out that Ladbrokes will return stakes if Alderbrook, last year's winner, does not make it to the Festival this time. Indeed,

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Regal Portrait (Doncaster 2.50) NB: Ahla (Doncaster 2.20)

the 4-1 "with a run" which the firm offers - Coral are 4-1 "all in" - is as close as we may get

this season to a no-lose bet. imagine that the horse described by Timeform as "potentially the best hurdler since Monksfield" will start much longer than 6-4. Anyone holding 4-1 will be able to hedge, er 999,998 to himself, while if he is absent, of course, Punters in all corner

there is nothing to pay.
As if to redress the balance sensible, he's got his own way in the face of this apparent generosity, though, the 4-1 against

Cup winner, for next Tuesday's Melbourne Cup is "ridiculous". That, at least, is the opinion of Mark Johnston, Double Trigger's trainer, as reported in an Australian newspaper yesterday.

Since Johnston also described his runner as "the best stayer in England for 15 years", leading bookmakers attaches he must be grateful that horsthe "with a run" proviso to es cannot sue for libel, since Large Action's odds for the Ardross and Le Moss, to name but two, would by now be engaging a QC. "The odds of 4-1 are ridiculous," Johnston added. "You can't be certain of anything in a Melbourne Cup, and I don't think any horse should be less than 10-1 in a cavalry charge like that."

Johnston's scepticism is

shared by many Australian trainers and bookies, and Jeff Landry, a local layer, did not spare the visitors' feelings. There are a million reasons why we have been sold a dummy with Double Trigger," he said. "He's run twice abroad, in If Alderbrook does return to defend his crown, it is hard to he's failed both times, and if you examine the winning times of his races, you'll find that he's just too slow to win a Melbourne Cup." It is probably just as well that Landry kept the oth-

> Punters in all corners of the world have a new champion this morning. Chim Shing-Chung, currently serving eight years three things which matter are for drug trafficking in a Hong Kong prison, took the prison au-



The sun sets on Scotland's Flat racing season as Latvian parades before the second race at Edinburgh yesterday

DONCASTER

12.50 Lituus 1.20 High Attas 2.20 Ahla

HYPERION 2.50 Regal Portrait 3.20 No Monkey Nuts 3.50 CORPORAL NYM (nap) 4.20 Sagebrush Roller (nb)

GOING: Good to Firm (Good in places).
STALLS: Straight course – stands side; round course – inside.
DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Left-hand, pear-shaped course with 1 mile straight.
Doncaster Central railway scatton (served by London, King's Cross). ADMISSEON:
Club 5.14; Grandstand 5.8; Family Enclosure 5.3 (under-16s free all enclosures). CAE PARK:

■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: J Gooden — 37 winners from 144 runners gives a success ratio of 25.7% and a profit to a 5.1 level stake of 543.50; B BHIIs — 29 winners, 140 runners, 20.7%, +53.1.80; B Hanaon — 27 winners, 280 runners, 10.4%, -5100.50; H Cecil — 30 winners, 103 runners, 25.2%, +59.41.
■ LRADING JOCKETS: Pat Eddery — 42 winners, 219 rickes, 19.6%, +524.59; W Carson — 34 winners, 238 ricks, 14.3%, -568.74; E Darley — 31 winners, 241 ricks, 12.9%, -53.72; L Dettori — 28 winners, 188 ricks, 14.9%, -53.23.1.
BLINKREED FIRST TIMES Rephyllia (visor), Sylvandra (visor) (4.20). Winners Steven Darley Deade (19.6%) you at Resemantes on Friday, LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Flame Of Hope (12.50), Wahiba Sands (12.50), Pares (1.20), Florm Shann (1.50), Chief Bee (2.20), Tearnista (3.50) & Never Explain (4.20) J Durlop from Arundel, W Sasser; Perstan Dawn (1.20) sent 212 miles by D Chappell from Whatsbury, Harapshire.

AII 17700304	7, majome	
12.50	EEF FLANDERS MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (Caded 240 7f Penalty Value £4,281	DIV I) £4,800
0.5	LYNNE HAROLD (15) (Malcolm P Aller) M Channon 90	R Hostes 6
	TUUS (USA) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 9 0	Detter 10
	ARRIGIDANO (USA) (Sultan Al kabeer) M Stoute 9 0	X Bradshaw 18
	ATTIMIED BA's Monica Keogli A Javas 9 0	
	AWTHGO (Mrs Claude Liller) G Wasse 9 0	W (Male 9
	NE DREMI (One Dreem Partnersho) 8 Smert 9 0	
	HEOSOPHER (Michael Yelly (New Jersey)) R Harmon 9 0	Red 13
	ERVATE SONG (USA) (K Abdullah) R Charles 90	
	UBLIC REPROOF (Middlehem Park Recing I) P Heelam 9 0	V Haliday 4
. 5	AGSAK JAMEEL RUSA)-Sheikh Ahmed Al Maksoumi W R Hern 9 0	
		Charactk 5
	SAHEA SANDS (I Durigo) Durigo 9 0	
	ARTESTE (11) (Bob Tallentine and Jim Cameron) D Moras 8.9	
	Lake OF HOPE (49) (Dute of Marborough) J Dunlop 8 9	
	RPY (D Set) C British 8 9	
	EFLING (DSN) (Sheirin Mohammed) J Gosden 89	4 · 7 Count 16
	ry Mother's Local, (USA) (A.) Richards K.C., minghara-Brown 89	
	ORTRERN MERACLE () FRESTE C Wal 8 9	
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BETTING: 3-1 Liture, 5-1 Mariginano, 6-1 Regisak Jameel, 8-1 Lieffing, Manulogo, 10-1 Walnibe San

SETIME: 3-1 littum, 5-1 Margiann, 6-1 regions amoves, or accounting the property of the 1994; Gendinare 2 9 0 S Watworth 15-2 (P Chapple-Hyam) 19 ran FORM GUIDE

John Gosden runs two in both divisions of this race, and LITHUS has an expealing look in this opener. The EI Gran Senor newcomer being a full-brother to Young Senor, a useful juvenite of Geoff Wragg's in 1991 who beat Dr Devious in the Highligher Stakes over this trip at Newmarket. Wragg won with the once-raced Germano at the last meeting here and his laufan newcomer Marwings is out of a dam who won over this trip in fretand. John Dunlop's juvenities are worth noting on this course and newcomer Washibe Sende, from the family of the 1,000 Guntess without Pally Flotsteips, looks better than Fleene Of Hope, who make the inverses a lot on her Newbury (soft ground) showing.

Selection: LITUUS

Selection: LTUUS	prove a lot on her Newbury (soft ground) showing.		
D) (DIV II) £4,800	EBF FLANDERS MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS added 2YO 7f Penaity Value £4,281	1.20	1
	A-AASEM (SS) (Hamdan Al Maktouri) H Thomson Jones 9 0	. 06	L
	ARTERXERXES (P.G.Love & Partners) M. Heaton-Elis 9.0		2
R Perham 18	CHARLE CHANG (Jim Horgen) R Hannon 9 0	l	3
E #94 T	DANCING CAVALIER (33) (The Three R's) R Hollinsbead 9 0	- 00	1
Cerc# 13	DAYDREAMER (USA) (Anthony Speciment J Gorden 9 0	•	•
Reid 11	FORMULABLE PARTITIER (George Ward) R Armstrong 9 0	i	5
S cockned C	BUSH KENSMAN (P J H Wills) P Walnyn 9 0	'	7
	JACKSON HELL (24) (James D Worlensohn) R Charlton 9 0		3
	PASTERNAK (1.1) (Graham Rock) Sir Mark Prescutt 9 0	50	•
	RADIANT STAR U L C Pearcel & Wags 9 0	D	Ю
Deen McKeown 10	TOM SWIFT (16) (P Godlern) R Spicer 9 0		u
	DISTINCT BEALITY (9) (N 5 Yorg) W O'Gorman B 9	26	12
	ENNAR SUNRISE (11) (A J Richards) C Britain 8 9	3 02	ы
N Cartiste 18	FAITH ALONE (16) (Mrs R M S Nesse) C Wall 8 9	46	14
K Fallog 6	HIGH ATLAS (N. Abdubah) B Hats 89	5	15
Deltori 1	KERRY RING (Sheith Michammed) J Gosden 89	6	15 16
	PARSA (USA) (17) (J Duniop) J Duniop 8 9	70	L7
W Woods 15	PERSONAL DAMEN (ROM Record) (1 Chancel R 9	Я	я

Of John Gosden's pair, Lankanco Destrois sides with the 18th Kerry Ring, a daughter of Sadier's Wells out of Kerrera, who was second to Musical Biss in the 1989 1,000 Guneae. She has been working well at home. But Robert Armstrong won with the newcomer Scenic Heights on this cord 12 months ago and John Reid is an interesting booking for his FORMIDABLE PARTINER, a half-brother to four wirners, including the smart Takwim, a winner in Instand over this journey. Radiaset Star is a Geoff Wregg trained Rainbow Quest newcomer, from a family that has plenty of pace, so he should be on the short list. Peabmake haped reely well behind Prize Gwing et Yarmouth and elso ran better then his severith to Ashjer at Lingfield fine days later would suggest. Passa has experience after a run at Cheptiow and John Durlop won this dwapon last year with a colt, who had shown very little on his previous start.

1	50	EBF DUNKIRK MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,500 added
		2YO 6f Penalty Value £5,022
L	00	APPEAL AGAIN (11) (Colin Webster) Mrs J Ramsden 9 0 Reld 10
2		ATTARBAR (Hamsan Af Makeoum) / Goeden 9 O
3	25	AUTORABBLE (196) (BP) (Bruce Adams) R Hannon 9 0
		BACKWOODS (Shelif: Monamment) G Wrage 9 0
,	0	BOWLERS BOY (18) Stonies Recent J Quent 9 0
5		CRICUS STAR (21) (Nei Groy) Sr Mark Presson 90
r	0	EXTREMELY FROENDLY (5) (W) Gradiny) C Britism 9 0
1		GREEN BARRIES (24) (Maktourn Al Maldourn) M Johnston 9 0
•	0	HANKSLEY HILL (14) (Harrish Alexander) Mrs J Ramsden 9 0
O		LEAD HIM ON (USA) (Mrs P Harrs) P Harris 9 0
1		MAJOR QUALITY (Mrs Mary Wett) J Farshave 9 0
2		MARRATS (USA) (15) (Iteration At Makeoure) H Thomson Jones 9 0
3	5	MATAL REDGE (11) (Gerald Weeks) D Haydo Jones 9 0T Ives 4
4		SANHAR (R. J. Arculi) R. Armstone 9.0
5	04	SEA DANZIG (7) P Cook) P Howing 9 0
6	0510	SHARP PEARL (13) (Dams Yardy) R Charlon 90
17	06	CHAVEN POINT (31) JAckston Stock Mass L Siddel 8 9
8		FROMA SHANON (USA) (15) (500) of the late Mrs E Orden White) J Dunion 89_R Hughen 7
9	•••	MASS RIVERA (J L C Peanse) G Wrater 8 9M 1984 13
20	000	OATEY (11) IR Barnett) Mrs. J Romesten 8 9
н	ō	SHARP W SHADY (11) (W Wallet) C Wall 8 9W Lord 17
5	•	YSZZA (Mrs Monca Keosh) A Janes 8 9
-		- 22 decised -
		- AZ MINISTON - Stimble C 4 Min Milan Paras Paras Q 4 Can Paras 40 4 Minister 40 4 Reals

1994: Scenc Heights 2 9 0 R Price 11-2 (R Amstrong) 20 ran

This has an open look about it but Peter Hams's newcomer LEAD HIMI ON, whose sire Cahill Road is a full-brother to the rop-notether Linbridged, and who is out of a well-related mane, may be worth a chance. Lynda Ramsden runs three, with Klaran Fallon on Himilitated Hilt, who showed nothing behind Germano hore. But Appeal Again is more interesting with John Reid up. Read won on the stable's Shinerolal last morth. Oether Lichn Egan's made her debut in a hot sace at York and her subsequent run less week would have been needed. Manawis ran fast in Fly Tip's Newbury race and reports from Newmarket suggest he is the one to back in preference to John Gosden's newcomer Attarikib. who is in the same ownership. Astobiabble promised to be smart early in the year and is likely to return much stronger after his rest. Sabhar must be considered with the stable having won this with a newcomer 12 months ago and, while Circus Star has looked promising, he had his first on over seven furiones so may find this six on the strap size. Geoff Whage's newcomer Bly Miles Riv. 12 months ago and, white curcus ower riso numbers providing a re-commer fally liftee Riv-en furiongs so may find this six on the sharp side. Geoff Wragg's newcomer fally liftee Riv-ters have a charm earlierne and looks best of the others. Selection: LEAD HIM ON digree and locks best of the others.

tal British Legion Combitions Stakes (CLAS ,000 added 1m 8f 132yds Penalty Value £5,024	5 C)
S CAY (1111) (R S G Jones) T Caldwell 4 9 5 Ca	
F BEE (28) (Mas Mark Stores) J Dumlop 4 9 1	włoy 2
ET (426) (Mads Nines) M Hammond 5 9 0	a (3) 4
MONETON FLYER (12) (CC) (U F Bower) R Holinshead 3 8 11	Ryan 3
RING TIMES (SS) (C.) Hachrysi C. Smith 3.85	1 446
Outset	1 Dod
	000 added 1m 6f 132yds Penalty Value £5,024 CAY (111) (R S G Joned T Caldwell 4 9 5

FORM SIMPE

Soft ground may have contributed to CHIEF BEETS easy win at Ascot, but Minnesota Vilang, the seven-length second, has won since. The selection was not algitted previously at Ayr when favourite, but this is the weaklah race and Chief Bee has an obvious chance if acting se well on this faster surface. Chief Bee won of a mark of 75 as Ascot and Alble has been besten in handicaps off about 84. She has been a shade disappointing since her Kempbeaten in nanocaps on about 84. She has been a strate desappointing since ton maden win but has her chance lodgy at these weights and her letest dele weiter burden at Ayr, can be accused. Some of these look ready for hurdes, Can ing one of them. He was bought relatively cheaply at 10,000ghs almost a year a winning ex-Dick Hern gelding could spring a surprise with Lanfranco Dettori boo Selection: CHIEF BEE

Photograph: David Ashdown

	L50	UNKNOWN SOLDIER FILLIES CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £8,000 added 1m 2f 60yds Penaity Value £5,117
1 .	00301B	SUES ARTISTE (34) (CD) (A L.R. Morton) 8 Hills 4 9 8
2	360610	STRUTTING (6) (D) (M W Grant) R Harmon 3 9 1
3	302200	QUANTRA (27) (D) (Haurice Kirby) T Clement 4 8 12 M Rismoner 2
4	1	MOUNTAINS OF MIST (167) (D) (S S Marchos) R Charlon 3 8 11
s	341500	CRISION SHOWER (22) (Mrs David Russell J Farshave 3 8 7
8	00-0600	MISS IRON HEART (USA) (48) (Alexander MacGallera) D Congrove 3 8 7 L Newton (5) 7
7 -	6	REGAL PORTIFALT (LOG) (Michael Poland) H Cecil 3 & 7

- 7 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Mountains of Mint, 3-1 See's Artiste, Regal Portrait, 7-2 Stratting, 9-1 Crimeo er, 12-1 Quivina, 50-1 Miss from Heart 1894: Grecian Sipper 3 9 3 K Darley 5-1 (M R Hern) 10 can

Structing is from an in-form stable and this return to 10 furlongs after a mile last Saturday is more her mark. She was a juvefile winner in the hands of Lester Piggott, and led for st furlongs in Celestel Key's race at Newmenter sh days ago after a clear-cut win from Celtic Fringe at Chepstow. Barry Hills brings back See's Artiste to the venue of her soft-ground with from Braille in September and she later an a blacker to fill both in the Cambridgeshive on a faster surface. She is on the upgrade but these weights set her a stiff task. REGAL PORTRAIT and Moontains of Misst are both returning from a byoff after looking decent on their debuts. Regal Portrait could be up to winning, offer a pleasing debut such to Grand Du Lac at Sendown in July. She is bound to be in top condition with the yard going so well and she is a half-sister to King's Theatre and High Estate. Mountains Of Misst won on her debut at Newbury in May and John Reid is again booked. She got home only narrowly from Synan Queen (a stablemate of Regal Portrait) but, as her price suggested, she was fully expected to oblige and the ground was similar to today's, Quilletin has lost her form, while Crimson Shower has fatted in handicaps since her Windsor win with Lantranco Detori in June. co Dettori in June. Releations DCCAL DOCTRAI

-	GLUVEL I	TOTAL PORTION
3.20		NORMANDY BEACHES NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 àdded 2YO 5f Penalty Value £3,883
		MUSIC GOLD (25) (D) (N S Yong) W O'Gormon 9 7
2	411042	NO MONNEY NUTS (24) (D) (The Markey Racing Club Limited) J Berry 9 6
3 .	35210	REPYCERIATE (AUS) (22) (D) IR E Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 9 3
4	535403	POLLY GOLDERILY (LS) (D) (David Syles) B Street 9 0
5	401062	GAGAULU (5) (D) (R F F Mason) P D Evens 9 0 G Hard 8
5	250111	DANGE FLYER (7) (D) (Dandelion Distribution) D Abustinot 8 10 (7ex) D R McCabe (3) 1
7	6002	AMSER FORT (34) (Lord Portmant P Cole 8.8
3	026103	ARTONIAS MELODY (7) (Mrs B D Georglou) S R Bowing 8 7,
9	002201	MESTER JOEL (10) (D) (Philip A Janes) M W Easterby 8 6 (7ed
10	540025	CAMBONDELIR (10) (T E F Freets) (Scarbonnets) Ltd) M H Easterby 7 9

Minimum weight: 7st. 7fb. True handlesp weight: Snifth 6st 13fb. GETTING: 5-2 Dende Plyer, 6-1 No Monkey Nets, Polly Gollghity, 13-2 Antonias Malody, 7-1 Amber Fort, 8-1 Reputriste, Music Gold, 10-1 others 1994: Pernyston View 2 8 11 Date Gibson 5-1 (P.Calver) 9 ran Expanse of profes

11 650530 SRETCH (21) (Gordon Battyl C Smith 77 ...

DANDE PLYER has produced a telling turn of foot to win nurseries at Yarmouth and Newmarket. David Arbutinot has booked claimer David McCabe to take 31b off the 71b penalty and win number four can be expected from this progressive colt. He quickened right away from Gegejabu for a four-length success at Yarmouth and is only 61b worse off, while Antonian's Melody is similarly better off for her four-length decent by the solection of Newmarket two days later. Muscle Gold is well regarded by Bill O'Gorman but the York macken winner has 9st 71b and concedes 11b to Dande Pher. The York race was a week affair but have Cella bed any well answer length decent control. winner has 9st 7th and concedes 11th to Dande Flyer. The York race was a week effoir but Music Gold had run well against decorm sorts at Sandown and Lurgfield previously. Billniers were tried on Asaber Fort at Newmarket (6t) last time and his speedy run from the front save off all except the useful files of Peru. The blands are left off today and Amber Fort may be suited by this futlong-shorter off). Milister Joel won a maden auction nerrowly at Red-car (6t) 10 days ago but the time was fast and sprinting is more his game after he pulled much too hard in a milie nursery at Portistract. The likes of Repeatriate, No Milionkey What and Polify Golightly have been beaten in runseries. Of the trio, Polify Golightly may go best, back over five on fast ground after her creditable third in blankers to Luriar Mist at Newbury (6t, good to soft). Selection: DANDE FLYER

3	.50	WESTERN DESERT CONDITIONS STAKES £7,500 added 2YO 1m Penalty Value £5,05	(CLÁSS C) 8
1	40221	HENRY THE FIFTH (12) (D) (A J Richards) C British 9 3	
2	1	BROGHSTONE (16) (Michael Poland) H Cecil 9 1	W Ryan 5
3	43	CORPORAL MYM (USA) (180) (SF) (St George Meyrick) P Cole 8 11	T Quiena 3
4		LA VOLTA (10) (Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber) J FraGereld 8 10	
5		TSARNUSDA (11) 6 K Skinsert-Brown) J Dumbp 8 10	
6		REPOY LADY (B) (David Seels) R Hannon 8 5	
		-6 declared -	

18-1 Kierr Lady = 1994: Royal Philosopher 2 8 8 J Tate 14-1 (K McAuldle) 8 ran

CORPORAL NYM has not run since two courags in May but may still be up to beating Brighstonia getting 40. A well-regarded cold, Corporal Nym led for four furlongs in a hot race at
York won by Dovebrace on his debut and was then just a shade disappointing at Kempton
when beatin by L'Aris Louis and Oberons Boy, a race Paul Cole won with 50 Peten the prereous year. Sure to be better suited by this extra quarter-mile, Corporal Nym can threat
Brighstone, who is asked a stiffer question after his debut win at Yarmouth 16 days ago.
Brighstone, who comes from the same family as the stable's May Hill Stakes winner Solar
Crystal, still rates as a big danger and should improve further for his debut run, when he
was easy to back. Newbury winner Henry The Fifth has it to prove on this taster ground,
but Tasamista crused home from weeker rivals at Lingleid 11 days ago after a costily
helment at Bristman. Her bill-state. Southiers, improved to win two good races at this stage. last year. Selection: CORPORAL NYM.

4.20		POPPY HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,250 added 7f Penalty Value £5,051
1	064200	SAGEBRUSH ROLLER (27) (C) (D) W. K. Colins) J. W. Warts 7 9 1.3
2	6-02460	SUTE HOPE (USA) (46) (D) (Eile Reang Cub) C Egenon 3 9 12 R Hudies 17
3		BOLD ANNISTMENT (51) (C) David Belli W S Curvingham 5 9 12 J F Board
4	40-0510	NEVER EXPLAIN (58) (6F) (Sir Andrew Lloyd Webberl J Duntop 3 9 12
5		SOMERTON BOY (27) (0) Avis Jans MacPheson) P Caker 5 9 11T lives 1
6		QUELING (G) (D) (A G Watsort M Dods 3 9 10 (Sec)
7		JOLFO (15) (CE) (BF) ANS G M Goodetram) in Currengham-Brown 6 9 9R Cockrane 6
8		FIONN DE COOL (20) (R F Killy) R Aletturs 4 9 9
9		STARRY EYED (56) (D) (K Abdulish) J Gosden 3 9 9 Detbod 15
10	10-3610	CHARLE SELECT (23) (John Silen) 6 Has, 3 9 8
11	0-52100	CUTPURSE MOLL (34) (D) (Deciles Limited) Farshave 3 9 6
12	555000	NZAAL (USA) (15) (2) (S Atten) D Micholis 4 9 5 8 Peal (7) 20
13	574002	MISSIER FREE EYES (15) (ED) (CT (Ney) C Britain 3 9 4 K Derley 2
14	504400	CONFERMAN WALTZER (27) (Cumbries tradestrate Lack M. H. Easterby 10 9 4
15		HALMANGERSOR (27) (D) (Mc-Joan Smith (Lincolni)) Mrs J Remoden 5 9 4 K Fallon 11
16		GOOMERSHAM PARK (25) (RF) (W H Patterson) M Heaton-Etts 3 9 2
17		Q FACTOR (27) (C) (H G Colles) D Hayda Jones 3 9 1
18	000010	CONTROL OF ANY OF CASE OF THE PARTY OF THE P
19	000000	EUPHYLLIA (S) (CD) (J G Vaugher) Bob Jones 3 9 0 F Rentes 4
_		BADGE (27) (19 Ritesian Lin) D Mores 4 8 11 Correl 19
20		WINISCRIE WOOSTER (5) (Miss Amenda J Randing) P Murphy 4 8 10
21		SYLVANDRA (15) (Ma Pat Word P Murphy 3 8 9 Williams
22	12803	SUPER BENZ (LD) (D) (Whitestonecide Racing) F O'Mehony 9 8 8
		- 22 declared -

BETTING: 8-1 Flores de Cool, 10-1 Meter Fire Byes, Sagebresk Relier, Quilling, 12-1 Charles Sillati

Hallmar 9-1 Hone or Cool, 10-1 House Fire Eyes, Sagebresh Rivey, Quilling, 12-1 Charlle Sillett, Hallmar Por 14-1 others 1994: John 5 8 7 C Teager 9-1 th Curninghar-Growny 21 fan FORMS GUIDE.

Charlie Sillett has winning form in the run but now well on feet ground at Windsor in July when third to Ben Gurm. The progressive Haydock wirmer wes hampered when melting his chollenge from a bad draw on that course 10 days later and this soura funding could suit firm. But STARRY EYED, a wirner of a week race at Assoc (7) on her debut and only extin him, But STARRY EYED, a winner of a week race at Ascot (7f) on her debut and only sixth to Can Ben over a mile here next time, could be the solution. This return to even furious on a faster surface against hendicappers could be just suit her. Old Cum brieve her at chance at the weights and this straight course will suit him better than York's turning seven less time. Bejut lengths, admit in Creatie Sifter's verning legicock race, Cumbhan Waltzer is now 10th better off. Justice won this race test year on soit ground, though his wins this term have been on this type of fast surface so his chance must be respected. Quilling is in top form and has a rock-bolid chance after being headed close home by Mountgate under a big weight at Nowmorket test Seaucity, while this shorter trip might well suit Never-Explain, who was squeezed up on his latest start here. Senserton Boy is a tough sort who has the the and gound in his favor, while Sylvendra in her first-time visor and old Segebnush Roller are others with claims.

Selections STARRY EYED.

Weight scale tips in favour of Reimei and Dettori

RESULTS

11-1: 2. Frances Mary 8-1; 3. Amoeba 9-2. 8 ras. 2-1 fav Cornche Quest (4th), 1/2, 21/2. (Miss J Craze), Yote: £32.30; £1.50, £1.40, £3.10. DF: £31.10. CSF: £80.62.

2.10: 1. MERIT (T Quinn) 5-1 jt-fav;

2.10: 1. MERIT (T Quirn) 5-1 j.-Tay; 2. Tremendisto 14-1; 3. Essu De Cologne 12-1; 4. Opera Buff 12-1. 16 ran. 5-1 j.-tav Ballymac Girl. 5, sh-hd. (P Cole). Totac 54-50; 51-10, 63-90, 64-30, 61-20. DF: 633-30. CSF: £62-78. Inicast: £638-08. Ino: £234-60. NR: True Bird (14-1) withdrawn not under orders. Rule 4 deduction on all bes; 5p in the £1.

2.40: 1. LA BREEF (G Bardwell) 14-1:

2. Green Land 9-1; 3. Kelou 10-1, 14 ran. 7-2 fav Megridoot, 1, 5, (M Ryan). Tote: £23.50; £3.20, £2.90, £3.60, DF: £149.50. CSF: £125.51. Tno: Not won.

3.10: 1. PROSPECTOR'S COVE (G Bardwell) 6-1; 2. Scenicits 5-1; 3. Katle Komalte

25-1. 14 ram. 7-2 co-favs Tabriz (4th), Academy Of Dance, Lady Barries, 3, 1, U Pearce). Tote: £7.70; £2.40, £1.20, £4.20. DF: £37.30, CSF: £33.27. Trac £174.60.

3.40: 1. SANTRIANA (I. Denton) 2-5 fav. 2. Cleasic Ballet 25-1; 3. Fly Fishing 4-1. 8 ran. 1¾4 3. U Gosden). Tota: £1.30: £1.00, £2.00, £1.40. DF: £9.00. CSF: £12.62.

4.10: 1. BEST OF ALL () Caroll 33-1; 2. Pussuar 16-1; 3. Field Of Vision 10-1. 14 ran. 3-1 fav Super Hgt. 11v., 4. () Berryl. Totar: £33.80; £4.90, £5.30, £4.40. Df: £195.00. CSF: £439.17. Tricast £5046.21.

ot: Not won, Pool of £8,927.20 car-

d forward to Doncaster today. sudpot: £58.00. Placepot: £1,829.20. ace 5: £1,073.72. Place 8: £3,469.99.

2.00; 1. BEENY () Tate) 6-1; 2. Time For Tea 9-2: 3. Foremen 14-1. 10 ran. 15-8 for Lady Caroline Lamb. 2½. 1. (4 Janes). Rote: 68.40; £2.60, £2.20, £3.40. DF: £14.70. CSP. £31.25. Tecast: £326.98. Teo: £110.90.

CSF: £31.25, IRDBE 124.05.1 III. 21.00.20 2.30: 1. FREEROLY SRAVE (A Whiten 100-30 fav; 2. Spendy Classic 5-1; 3. Teo-Erum 12-1; 10 ras. 11/4, 11/4, IMAS G Rele-wey). Tota: £5.80; £2.30, £2.20, £2.20. DF: 232.80. CSF: £20.44. Tro: £62.80.

3.00: 1. JOYFUL (G Hind) 5-1; 2. Som-

DAME A POTFUL TO THAIL 7-1; A SOME breeffe event fax; 3. Denneling Sloam 16-1. 11, ran. St.-Ind. 4. [] Gooden]. Feta: 56.80; 52.10, £1.10, £3.00. DF: £3.20. CSF: £9.89. True £10.60.

25.85. Tro: £10.60.
3.90: 1 SET THE FASHION (D Harrson)
8.1: 2. Present Shandon 5-2 Sar, 3. Beatico 8-1.32 ran. 1 1½. (D L Williams). Totac
63.70: £3.10. £1.70. £3.70. DF: £8.70. CSF:
27.89. Trocest £158.29. Tro: £17.50.
4.00: 1. NO SPEECHES (AV T McCarthy)
6-1: 2. Tadedan 6-1: 3. Messrens 8-1. 1A ran.
4-1 Six Bold Habt. 1¾, 9tt-M. (S Dori. Totac
£6.50; £2.20. £3.20. £2.30. DF: £28.60.
CSF: £46.23. Tricast £206.55. Troc £204.00.
Quadqot: £47.40. Piscopot: £99.10.
Pisco S: £48.41. Pisco 8: £84.21.

MARKET RASEN

1.20: 1. DANCING DOVE (B Harding) 5-2 lar; 2. Lucy Yuffy 100-30; 3. Strong John 14-1.9 ran. 3/a, 4., G. Richards; Felin: £3.30; £1.40, £1.50, £2.70. DF: £3.60. CSF: £11.30. Tric: £38.90. NF: Cast the Line.

150: 1 CAN CAN CHARLE (P Hold)
4-1; 2 Rout's Pride 16-1; 3, Nonko 5-2
fav. 15 Fan. 3, nk. (I Peare), Totac £3.60;
£2.20, £6.10, £2.00. Df: £43.70. CSF;
£70.37. This £294.00.

2.50; 21.70; DF: Lest_Co. CSF: LEGL-CO. 2.50; 1. GYMCRAK TIGER (A Meguest 11-4; 2. Bytternia Mills 10-1; 3. Barney's Gift 9-1. 7 rats, 94 for Val De Rama, 1, 3. (G Holmes), Total: £3.30; £1.40, £3.90, DF: £19.40, CSF: £26.31.

3.20: 1. PARIS FASHION (T Jens) ?-4;

3.20: 1. PARIS FRISHON IN JOSEP.

14-1. 7 res., 13-8 fav Enfymening Light. 4,
3. In Twiston-Davies). Totac £2.70: £2.00,
£2.50. DF: £13.20. CSF. £13.39.

£2.50. DF: £13.20. GSF: £19.39.
3.50: 1. ASSONG I. Harvej 12-1; 2. Codina
Caper 20-1; 3. On A Pedestal 100-30.
13 ran. 5-2 few Stary Dem. 4a, 2. (J Bennett). Totas: £29.30; £4.40, £5.00, £1.50.
DF: £312.80. GSF: £219.35. Trac £293.20.
Quadpot: £15.90. Placepot: £319.20.
Place 5: £109.54. Place 6: £193.51.

0891-168-168

UTTOXETER 102 202 37

HEXHAM 103 203 33

LINGFIELD 1.30: 1 ELPMENTARY U Stade 11-10 far: 2. Sir Norman Hoft 10-1; 3. What's Socreto 50-1. 12 ran. 5, 6. (N. Walter). Total £2.00; £1.10, £2.20, £4.50. DF: £12.70.

Trio: £504.20.

EDINBURGH 1.40: 1 QUEENS CHECK (\$ Webst

UTTOXETER

1.10 Apachee Flower 1.40 Finesse The King 2.10 Full Quiver 2.40 Ferrufino 3.10 Harwell Lad 3.40 Large Action 4.10 Chicago's Best

GOING: GOOD.

Left-hand course, Bun-in of 170yd,
Course is SE of fown near B5017. Uttoxeter station (Derby-Crewe line) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Cub 515 (OAPs 512);

WILLIAMS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE NOTE.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Glano (1.40), Desert President (2.10) & De De Soo (2.10) have been sent 191 miles by B Hood from Lovee, E Sussex No Pain No Gain (3.40) sent 182 miles by J Gifford from Findon, W Sessex; Scorpions Tale (2.10), Dark Finnton (2.40), Regal Aura (3.40) & Angust Twelth (4.10) sent 180 miles by D O'Biden from Capel, Kent; Apachee Flower (1.10) & Dunkery Reseau (3.10) sent 179 miles by H Howe from Caldord-Indee. Devan.

- 9 dec

Crewe line) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Club \$ 15 (OA Tuttersulls \$10 (OAPs \$7); Course \$3. CAB PARK: Fre

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

Reg Akehurst triggered an Reimei in tomorrow's Novem- Hill from 20-1 to 12-1. With the doubtful runners, Reimei, origante-post plunge yesterday ber Handicap at Doncaster. weights set to rise 21lb as the inally handicapped at 6st 10lb, when he booked the champion The six-year-old's odds were top-weights Capias, Naked Wel-

comes into the race on 8st 3lb, jockey, Lanfranco Dettori, for promptly chopped by William come and Better Offer are Dettori's minimum weight.

thorities to court when they

started removing the racing form from the daily newspapers

in an effort to deter illegal

The court ruled that the pris-

oner's human rights had been

vindication for those of us who

have always known that the

violated, a stunning judicial

gambling within the jail.

16 05-0P60 VISION OF LIGHT (5) H Ower 5 10 7 ...

BETTING: 9-2 Reigning Royal, Withmut A Fing, 6-1 Springtime Attair, 8-1 Ballindon, Menyhill Madeus, 10-1 Tigorsong, 16-1 others					
2.40 FLINT BISHOP & BARNETT NOVICE HAND- ICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,600 2m					
1 320-112 FERRILFIND (14) (D) (RF) P Rich 7 11 13					
3 5FORI-1 DARK NGHINGALE (S) (D) 0 Shewood 5 11 9 (Ser) — I Osburna 4 236 ZAHID (20) (SF) K Burke 4 11 4					
5 448044 TONY'S MIST (20) J M Badey 5 11 2					
7 4402/2-6 DON TOCHIO (17) J Write 5 10 10					
9 6PSO-10 AMAGOR'S DREAM (8) J Peace 5 10 8					
11. 30P(3/P HICKORY WIND (12) M Williamson 8 10 1					
13 APR DADE PRANTON (1 29% D O'Pres & 10 0 Mr F female					

Minimum weight 10st. True handkap weight: Dark Phantom 8st 10th.

E	L1^i	CANKEY VENDING MAIDEN HURDLE (CI ASS E) (DIV I) £2,800 3m 110yds	BESTERR: 5-2 Dark Mightingsie, 6-1 Newtrall Prince, 7-1 Ferraliso, Seise Mountain, 8-1 Fiying Instructor, Adator's Dream, 12-1 others	l
2	40 OPPTSF-	BUSTER (22) Mrs B Warrig 7 11 0	3.10 PERMIT TRAINERS AMATEURS NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,500 2m SF	ı
4	6600-06	HAG'S WAY (218) J Edwards 5 11 0	1 HARNYELL LAD (16) R Ainer 6 11 10	l
	5776P4	SELDOM IN (104) R Biotherion 9 11 0	3 OP:3 LONG REACH (34) N Twiston-Dates 7 10 6hr M Rimelt (6) 4 O4L22-4 DUNKERY BENCON (42) H Hose 9 10 8Mr J Culloty (7)	ĺ
8		TILTY (182) A Streeter 5 11 0 Teley PREATELIC R Alner 4 10 13 A Magaire	5 216-604 JASOR'S BOY (13) M Bradley 5 10 5 AB* R Johason (5) 6 OU4/345 PENDARTH (7) R Proc 9 10 0 Mr R Thouston (7)	
9		APACHEE FLOWER (34) H Howe 5 10 9A P McCoy	7 GLP334 FRANCE SLEU (212) King 8 10 0	t

BETTING: 5-2 Seklots in, 3-1 Hag's Way, 5-1 Buster, 6-1 Titty, 7-1 Cross's Delight, 8-1 Sungla, Apachee Flower, 12-1 others

BETTING: 5-2 Seldools in, 3-1 Mag* Way, 5-1 Buster, 6-1 Tifty, 7-1 Cross's Deligiat, 8-1 Sungia, Apachee Flower, 12-1 others 1_40 SANKEY VENDING MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV II) £2,800 3m 110 yds OP: CORN EXCHANGE (874) R Proc 7 11.0 A P McCoy 2	Minimum: 10s. True handicap weights: Pentarth 9st 12h, Rivage Steu 9st 10th BETTING: 64 Harred Lad, 12-8 Long Roach, 8-1 Certian* nt 10-1 Jason's Boy, 12-1 Dunkery Beacan, 16-1 Pentarth, ', p. Local 10-1 Jason's Boy, 12-1 Dunkery Beacan, 16-1 Pentarth, ', p. Local 10-1 Jason's Boy, 12-1 Dunkery Beacan, 16-1 Pentarth, ', p. Local 10-1 Jason's Boy, 12-1 Dunkery Beacan, 16-1 Dunkery Boy, 10-1 Dunkery Boy,
change, 14-1 Gizno, Fadi, 33-1 others	1 Spinning Steel, 25-1 Regal Auxa, 33-1 Refly, Storming Rus
2.10 GUINNESS BREWING NOVICE SELLING HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,600 2m 4f 110yds	4.10 NATIONAL FOREST HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,500 added 2m 4f 110yds

4.10 (CLASS D) £3,500 added 2m 4f 110yds 1. 1.2.339 WITHOUT A RANG (21) (C) J Write 5 11.5 ___P BECONGROUPS (C) PROCESSES (1008) N Burke 6 10.12 _____ A Lamach (3) P32P5 DESERT PRESIDENT (254) R Hood 4 10.12 _____ G Bradley RULL QUIVER Mr. 8 Warng 10.10.12 _____ E Byrne 5020P3 R. E. DE 500 (311) R Hoad 9 10.12 _____ Mr. D Dryker MORSHI T BIA 6 10.12 _____ J Railton (36-51) PALACE PRIRADE (2) N Aydre 5 10.12 _____ Mr. J Challety (7)

Minimum weight: 10st True handkop weight Alternation 9xt 13to. BETTING: 2-1 Russmay Pote, 4-1 Chicago's Best, Lien De Fan 7-1 Johns The Boy, 8-1 Gone By, 10-1 Old Money, 12-1 others

HEXHAM

1.30 Aylesbury Lad 2.00 George Ashford 2.30 Willie Sparkle 3.00 Palace River 3.30 Su-

GOING: Good to Firm.
Left-hand, undulating course. Run-ta of 250yd.
Course is on mutar road 2m 5 of Hexham. Signposted from troop. Hoxham station 2m. ADMISSION: Chib 59; Paddock 56 (OAPs 51). CAR PARE: Free.

2:00.3 f. Tho: 2:294.00.
2:20: 1. CHANGE THE REIGN () R Kavanegh 9:2; 2. Jimmy G'Den 14-1: 3. Royal Saxon 9:2. S mn. 11-4 km Stalpus Fort. 3, 14 (Mess A Britation), Fother 13, 70: £1.60, £2:20, £1.70. DF. £49.20. CSF: £55.46. SIS All races WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Supertop (3.30) woo at Wetherby on Friday.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Achillibule (2:30) has been sent
221 miles by F Yantley from Boreley, H'ford & Wores.

> 1.30 ROBSON BROWN MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS F) £3,500 added 3m 1f

ETIPLE evens I've For One, 2-1 Mist Huzter, 3-1 Aylesbury Lad.

2.00 FEDERATION BREWERY NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,800 added 2m 4f 110yds

(U.) FINISHMENT INLEST (ZI) U LISTO 4 11 0 JBY A MEDINES (T)
0530 ANNSTRSIA WINDSON (100) D Moltan 4 10 9 JD J Moltan
PPO-CITY USHITER (ZIZ) J Gerson 5 10 9 JBY ANNSTRSIA WINDSON (148) J Chadon 7 10 9 JBY ANNSTRSIA (148) J CHADON 7 10 9 JBY ANNST -9 declared -SETTING: 5-4 Goorge Astroni, 9-4 Emerald Charat, 3-1 Plus Chern, 10-1 Persussive Talent, 16-1 Whiter Morn, 25-1 others

2.30 FEDERATION PLS CONDITIONALS HANDI-CAP CHASE (CLASS F) \$4,000 2m 4f 110 yes 1 ZZ5-Z2 HEATHNEW [35] / Fizieral: 8 11 10 ______ Fixeby (3) 2 50 4393 SCARF (Z3) J J ONell 7 11 7 ______ A Rocke (3) num weight, 10st. True handicap neights Achilthule 9st 13th, Like And BETTING 5-4 Heartiniew, 7-4 Wille Speride, 5-1 Scart, 6-1 Laurie-O, 33-1 Achitibale, 50-1 Live And Let Live

3.00 MEDALLION LAGER SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,500 2m 4f 110 yds - 6 declared -5-2 Minimaries, 3-1 Yacht Club, 5-1 Balzi-BETUNG: 7-4 Palace River, 5-2 Mile no, 12-1 Irish Resher, 33-1 Tactix

3.30 JOHN EUSTACE SMITH NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,500 2m 110yds

SP32 SONNTP (27) P Beaumont 7 10 8 R Supple SEFOP-0 STRONG MEASURE (27) P Cheesbrugh 7 10 3 A Dobbin 503604 HICKSONS CHOICE (182) 1 Wade 7 10 2 046-PPP CROFTON LAME (27) J Coon 7 10 1 00005-5 QUARTZ HILL (27) D Lamb 6 10 0 - 7 declared -

Minamum weight 10st True handlop weight Quarts HB 9st 7to. BETTINGS 7-4 Allings Nomin, 8-4 Separtop, 11-4 Separty P, 8-1 Strong Man stare, 12-1 Hickeans Choice, 50-1 Crefton Lake, Quarts HB

4.00 FEDERATION SPECIAL ALE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,600 added 2m PO11-F4 TASHREEF (140) (CD) | Brieft 5 11 10 _

Bowe draws his strength from intelligence

Since intelligence and a strong instinct for self-preservation are qualities usually found in conjunction, smart boxers must accept the probability that they

will be held in deep suspicion. Even today you can come across trainers who think it a problem when a pupil is praised for improvements in vocabulary. "I hope the kid remembers he's going to fight, not read poone of them has been etry," one of heard to say.

Nobody has ever said that about Riddick Bowe - his intelligence is sometimes considered a drawback, the reason trouble. why he does not stand supreme in the heavyweight division.

"Too bright for his own good," some people go around saying. nature heips to explain why he has frequently been lax when required to regard diet as a fundamental principle of preparation. Often, fat has been the

most obvious description.
On this subject, Bowe's veteran tutor, Eddie Futch - a man much respected throughout boxing - is an important witness. "In most things, Riddick has never given me a moment's trouble," Futch said this week, when preparing Bowe for to-morrow's contest against Evander Holyfield at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. None of Futch's many champions has been less

Considering that Bowe took up boxing with the stench of a New York housing project on him, and resisted the tempta-That Bowe is also placed by tions that destroyed some of the children he grew up with,

Ken Jones reports from Las Vegas on a sluggish that his next opponent. Jorge Gonzales, was given more than an outside chance

Futch's admiration is under-standable. But it has not always

been easy going.
Before Holyfield regained the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation titles from Bowe in their second contest almost exactly two years ago, Futch almost gave up on him. This was because Bowe could be accused of spending more time in supermarkets than the gymnasium. On the scales, Bowe was a big disappointment to his tutor. matter how much I preached, he went on gorging himself," Futch recalled.

When Bowe stopped Herbie Hide in six rounds last March to gain the World Boxing Or-At one stage, Futch was at the point of departure. Had he not ganisation championship, he was overweight and looked so

and son.

of victory.
Instead, Bowe took Gonzamislaid an air ticket, it is unlikely les apart. This was much to Futch's satisfaction. "Not perfect," he said, "but close to the standard I think Riddick can that they would still be in al-liance. "I was almost out of the door when Riddick showed up, pleading with me to stay," Futch added. A strong probability is reach. I've always felt that as long as Riddick concentrated that without Futch at his side, fully and watched his weight be-Bowe, whose career earnings exceed \$30m (£19.5m), would have given up boxing. "I don't tween fights, he will dominate the heavyweight division and be remembered as one of the allthink there is any doubt about it," said Rock Newman, his time great fighters. voluble manager. "They make a remarkable pair, like father

Even now, Bowe is not allowed to forget that Lennox Lewis defeated him in the 1988 Olympic boxing finals. The idea of getting them together in the ring again excites Seth Abraham of the cable television network Home Box Office, that puts

more than \$40m annually into boxing. "It would be bigger than anything we've done in the sport - bigger than the light be-tween Holyfield and George Foreman, which is our record. Lewis and Holyfield wouldn't be

had, either, To foster that possibility, Abraham has persuaded Lewis to work for him tomorrow as a reporter in Bowe's dressingroom, "I think it's the first time they will have spoken since the Seoul Olympics," he said. Following the dramatic col-

lapse of the contest between Mike Tyson and Buster Mathis Jur that was also scheduled for tomorrow in Las Vegas, the former undisputed champion is guaranteed to be the centre of attraction. In view of the interest evoked internationally

may think it interesting that Bowe-Holyfield was doing better business. "People under-stood that it was a real fight, not a mismatch." Newman stated. "I had a premonition that the lyson fight would go away, and it did." In celebration of his prescience, Newman wore a soothsayer's turban when attending

a press conference yesterday. Not that Bowe had paid much attention to Tyson's activities anyway. "Who cared?" he asked, after a light work-out in the sports hall behind Caesars Palace. By the look of him, Futch has no cause for concern. And by the sound of him, if Bowe was running for office, he would surely be elected.

Lennox Lewis yesterday began his High Court bid to gain



an injunction halting the World Boxing Council from sanction-ing a title bout between Frank Bruno and Mike Tyson. Lewis. who is the mandatory challenger. is protesting against Bruno's plans to defend his heavyweight crown against Tyson on 16 March in Las Vegas. The hearing continues today.

Sheasby belies Quin stereotype

tessential Harlequin and, as to he so described is not usually a compliment, it has scarcely done him any favours during a rugby lifetime devoted to the multicoloured London club.

But these days Sheasby is pushing ever closer to the England recognition he craves - to the extent that his club's director of rugby, the former England coach Dick Best, has publicly lambasted Jack Rowell for leaving him out - and so it is time to cast off the image for

For Sheasby tomorrow's visit to The Stoop by Leicester, second playing third in the First Division, is therefore as timely as could be. He has ground to make up, having missed out on the England squad for this month's South Africa match and then not figuring among those mentioned when it came to this week's team selection.

But if he keeps proving himself as he has been doing this season he believes he has every hope of elevation, into the squad at any rate, for the subsequent game against Western Samoa. If so, it will have been a while in coming. Sheasby is one of those back-

row forwards you cannot help but notice and he has been playing senior rugby for Quins enjoying himself' ever since 1987, yet all his international career amounts to is half-a-dozen annearances for England A and a notable part moment of the day that I'm not in the England VII who won the World Cup Sevens in 1993.

under a past image: of a sevens different cultures and different player, a bit light-hearted about it all," Keith Richardson, the Harlequins coach, said. "But when you get down to it he plays a very hard game. He wins a lot full, just as I do when it comes of ball, is tactically very aware to training and playing. and when he puts his mind to it he can be as effective as any-

body in the game." prove himself twice over, not be had or something to be done simply in terms of his rugby capabilities but because of that well-spoken public-school refinement (in his case Radley) which is the stuff of Harlequin caricature though hardly mod-such a high-grade rugby player ern reality. Not when Jason Leonard, late of Barking, is

leading the side.

There is a nagging image of Chris Sheasby as the quinplayer in rugby's new professional era

> not really care and, alas for Sheasby, have thought that of him too. Not guilty, he pleads. Anyone who knows me, anyone who has played with me, anyone who has coached me knows I am fully committed, 100 per cent fit and dedicated to whatever cause it is.

I have proved that without a doubt for Harlequins. I've been with them through the rough and smooth, seen Dick Best come and go and, if any-one really did think that way about me, as soon as I play with them or am coached by them they change their opinion."

pleading but at the same time the determinedly non-dilettante Sheashy does own up to the sin of enjoying himself - partly because of an overwhelming love of the game and partly because he is a good-time type of guy.

'Determinedly non-dilettante, Sheasby owns up to the sin of

going to enjoy to the full the wonderful situations rugby creates: "He's someone who is living the different environments, people one meets along the way. Dinners, partying, beautiful women . . . wherever they occur I will maximise them to the

"Outside rugby my attitude is happy-go-lucky. As soon as one goes on the field it's work but Yet it is as if Sheasby has to after that, if there's a laugh to to lighten the mood and to bring back a sense of reality, you've got to do it in order to keep your sanity."

It is strange indeed to hear express such sentiments. In this sense Sheasby is a throwback to a kinder age, and the better for The truth is people have it. Rugby union and some ning side. Somehow, that's what sometimes thought Quins did rugby players may be going gets you noticed."

professional but he has no inleution of ceasing to be a maths

Berkshire. That said, ambition has never burned more fiercely within him. Sheasby was told he was close to selection for England's 1995 World Cup squad and, having missed out on South Africa, went instead with England A to Australia, where he further enhanced his reputation.

master at Pangbourne College,

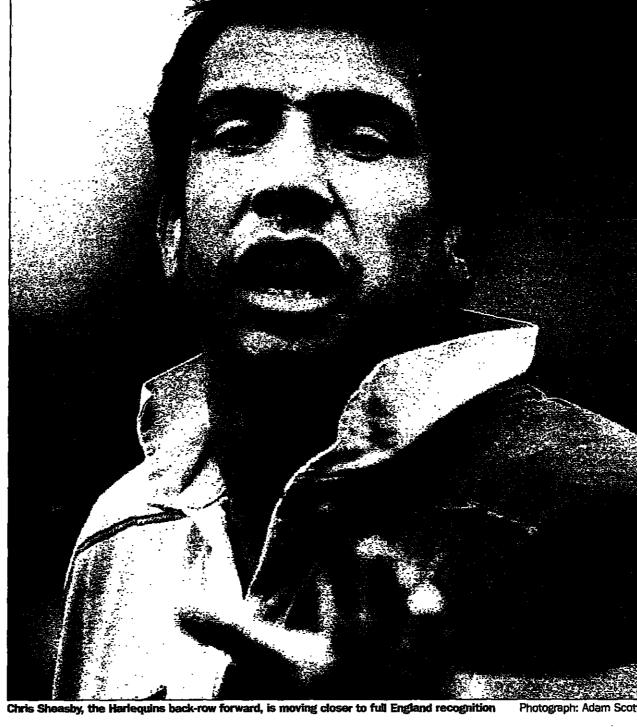
At 28, he is not the youngest contender but he could put forward long experience as an argument in his favour. There have been two University match appearances for Cambridge, the '93 World Sevens and a consistently impressive showing for Harlequins along the way, and, in haranguing Rowell, Best would promote his man as the model of a creative modern loose forward.

Best accused the England selectors of "having a mental block against him" and Richardson, while needing to tread lightly because of his supplementary coaching posi-tion with England A, is willing to forsake strict impartiality by also supporting Sheasby for the earliest advancement.

It leaves Sheasby himself faintly hemused, since he reckons he has been doing what only the past couple of months. He was at the forefront of Quins' desperate struggle against relegation last season and has figured with equal prominence in this season's reversal of fortune.

Indeed you only have to look at Quins' forward travails without him when a gastric upset absented him from the Bath game a fortnight ago, and then note the sharp improvement on his return at Gloucester last Saturday to appreciate his considerable importance.

"Pleased as I may be with my form, I wouldn't say it's any better than it was last season or the season before that," he said. "In fact I would say that last season I had hardly one bad game. The difference is between playing well in a losing side and playing well in a win-



Bayfield rejects £50,000 transfer bid

Rugby union has taken a step player, said: "I have no desire nearer a true transfer market. by leave. Northampton have against West Hartlepool, but writes David Liewellyn. Unfortunately for First Division Harlequins their reported £50,000 offer was not enough to tempt the England lock Martin Bayfield to leave Northampton,

the Second Division leaders. Bayfield, 28, who has just begun a five-year sabbatical from Bedfordshire police in order to got their act together, they are pro-active in the switch to pro- er. Damian. in the centre. fessionalism, so there is no need for players to go."

to give Damian Hopley some experience of wing play in preparation for his appearance in that position for England against South Africa on 18 have decided to keep his broth-

Western Samoa, who have been seriously hit by defec-Wasps have ignored a chance tions to rugby league, arrived give Damian Hopley some exyesterday for their 12-match tour of Scotland and England. Their coach, Bryan Williams, the former New Zealand wing, said: "We have a number of November. Wasps have dropped young talented players coming

through and I expect some of them to make an impact." The Jed-Forest scrum-half

Gary Armstrong, who has signed registration forms with Newcastle, has been recalled to captain Scotland A against the Samoans at Hawick on 12 November. Alun Pask, a Wales captain in the 1960s who won 26 caps. has died in a fire at his home in

Blackwood, Gwent. He was 58, Obituary, page 22

Britain complete grand slam

Hockey

BILL COLWILL reports from Bisham Abbey Great Britain

Great Britain's women, who depart on Sunday for the Olympic qualifying tournament in Cape Town, ended their preparations in style at Bisham Abbey yesterday, winning the third Test against Russia 4-1 to complete

a 3-0 grand slam. The 19-year-old Anna Bennett scored a goal in each half (her first for Britain). Scotland's Sue MacDonald hit one just before the interval and Jane Sixsmith one just after but again it was the powerful running of the middle trio. Tammy Miller, Mandy Davies and Pauline Robertson, which looked so impressive.

The hastily arranged Tests against the Russians, who finished fifth in the European Cup in the summer – one place below England – provided useful opposition for Britain. They were able to show off their new aggressive and assertive approach to the game and to show, at last, that they seem capable of breaking down the massed defences they can expect to meet in Cape Town -

and still score plenty of goals.

A satisfied Sue Slocombe Britain's coach, said last night: "It's a delight to be going to the Olympic qualifiers with 13 goals in three games behind us, and goals coming from open play and at penalty corners.

"In the past I have been worried about our tackling and our ability to make substitutions without weakening the performance," Slocombe added. "We now have an extremely good allround squad and I can afford to roll my substitutes on and off to make the most of all situahith ready

lats out

ishment.

LIORS.**

GREAT BRITAIN: H Rose (Sution Coldield).

5 Fraser (Grove), J Addins (Bradford Swittenbenk, capi), K Brown (Slough). L Cope (Lecester): M Davies (Sutron Coldield). P Robertson (Grove). T Williar (Chlori): A Bennett (Slough). J Sharmith (Sutton Coldield). M Nicholis (Slough). Substitutes used: S MacDonald (Glasgow Western). C Cook (High town). D Renisland (Edinburgh Ladles).

RUSSIA: G Musara; I Swindows: N Macchenko, M Chegurdaeva, E Cheroshitowa: E Potokora, M Chegurdaeva, E Cheroshitowa: E Potokora, N Chegurdaeva, E Charlochenko, T Vasakova, capi; O Leksina. I Peskinna. Substitutes used: O Ushkova and O Nidotrova. tions." Umpires: V Sassali and D Prewet: footh England.

PICK OF THE DAY

SUNDAY / Cycling International Track Meeting Manchester

The short, sharp format of the British Cycling Federation International track ng at the Manchester velodrome emoon. Eight nations compete and the meeting also features Graeme Obree, Britain's world pursuit cham-pron, who will attempt two British records: the flying start one kilometre

and the 5km. The programme includes a flying 200 metres time trial, keinn racing in which the motor paced bunch starts racing when the motorcycle leaves the track, devil take the hind-most eliminations and a 30km Madi-

How to get there: National Cycling Centre, Manchester Velotrome, Stuart Street, is lo-cated off Ashton Old Road, between Man-chester and Ashton-under-Lyne, near Droylesden and mached from AS62 via Cor-bett Street. Olympic mash of excellence cer-emory is at 12.45pm. Admessor: £8 adules, £4 under-16s/OAPs. (0161 230 2307/8).



For further information, FreeCall 0500 505 505. NORWEB. OFFICE WORLD, JOHN LEWIS PARTNERSHIP, B Calls are charged at 39p a manuta leconomy ratel, 48p at all other times. Calls made

pornship: Leeds v Wegan (7.30).
TENNS: Guardian Direct Nationals (Telliond).
Tennis: Important tournament for Briesh players alone is divided into seven divisions. The senior players' category comprises the First Desson, while Dessons too to seven are graded according to Lawn Ternis Association national ratings. The seventh Darston, for example, is rated at beginner standard. Admission: today £6 adults, children undernistion: today £6 adults, children undernistions today £6 adults, children undernistional Centre, St Queenta's Gate. Tellord International Centre, St Queenta's Gate. Tellord, Smopotare, (Fel: 01952 291199).
TOSIORROW
FDOTBALL: FA Caring Premiership, Endsleigh son. Racing is from 1pm to 5pm.

FOOTBALL: FA Caring Premiership, Endsleigh Insurance League and Scotash League pro-

Heineken Weish League, Terments Scottish Championship.

RACING (Flet meetings in capitals): DON-CASTERC Club £14; Gondstand £8; Femaly Enclosure £3 (under-16s free all enclosures). (First race 12.50), Chepetow: Club £13; Tatterasis £9 (DAPs £41; 1.0). Newcoastie: Club £14 (DAPs £6, 16 to 20-year-tids £5, under-16s free): Tatterasis £9 (DAPs £41; Silver Ring £4, (1.10), Samdowto: Club £15, Junior Club £16-25yrs) £13; Garndstand and Peddock £12: Silver Ring £5, (1.06). Uldeanster: Club £15; (DAPs £12): Tetterasis £10 (DAPs £77): Course £3. (1.50). Williamstone, Members £10; 50 (Union Members, 17 to 22 years, £6.50); Tantersals £8; Course (and cars to boursa) £4. (Linder-18; fine into all enclosures). (1.25).

CYCLO-CROSS: Nots and Deby League (Deby), Segoposed from the Deby ring road. The juncilies' race at 1pm opens the meeting, with the mean race at 2.15pm.

DRAG RACING: Flame and Tunder Finearins.

DRAG RACING: Rame and Thunder Freworks, Santa Pod). Tomorrow is the finel round for HRA Category cars and during the day jet cars, dregaters and trucks, as well as top fixer dregaters will be demonstrative more measuremen cors, dregaters and trucks, as well as top fixel degaters with other degaters with other degaters with other degaters. The demonstrating their awarene power. Recing starts at 10em, with the fire-works display scheduled for Born, Admission: 112 adults, critisten 12-15 half-proe, 11 and under free. After 6-30pm, £6. On Sunday, the public can by out the caruit from 10em to 4pm. Speciating is 17 adults, children as above, Samta Pod Raceway, Bedfordshire, is significated from junction 14, M1. (felt of 1234 782828).

JUST THE TICKET: a weekly guide to what's on where for the sporting spectator Fife Flyers. Fife lead the first leg 5-3 after detesting last year's losing finalists. Sheffield Arena, Broughton Lane, is signposted one mae from junction 34 of M1, taking A6178 towards the city centre. The Arena is stuated at the junction of A6178 and Broughton Lane. (Tel: 0114 256 5656).

become a professional rugby

at the junction of A6178 and Broughton Lane. (Tel: 0114 256 5656).

ROWING: Fuller's Head of the River Fours (River Themes). The Head of the River Fours, over the the 44-mills course from Mortale to Punney on the River Themes, has again been oversubscribed by more than 100 crews. The first of the permitted 500 entry will starts at 1.15pm. Most of Great Britan's team and medialists from the World championships in Finland complete, including in the first cew to set out, leander I. Steven Redigrave and Matthew Present, crowing in a quadruple scull. Greg Seerle, Jonny Seerle, Ruper Obinober and Tim Foster, the crew which won silver in the codess fours in Finland, row in a sensor it quad as University of London/Molessly. Their start number is 34th. The 155-Strong entry of women's crews is a record. The Netwey's sassly excessible by jubbe transport. At the start, Chasetch Badge (Waterson BR to Monlake, District line to New Gardens) offers a varingap point. Barness railway Bridge, Dukes Meadow at Chrowick, Hammiersmith Bridge (Plocaddy or District to Hermiersmith Bridge) are other wewing points; Putney Bridge, Owesshook BR to Putney or District Line underground to Putney Bridge) offers the best view at the finish or follow the towpath.

SUNDAY
FOO'BALL: FA Carling Premiership: Eventon
v Blackburn Rovers (4.0). Endsleigh League
First Devision: Charlton v Sunderland (2.55);
Oldham v Port Vale (3.0); West Bromwich v
Leicesser (2.55).
RMGBY LEAGUE: Stones Cantenary Championship programme.

RUGBY UNBORK Helmeken Welch League First Division: Cardiff v Aberavon (2.30).

HOCKEY: Men's National Hockey League, AE-WH4 Cup second round.
CANOEMPG: Rher Dee Wild Woter Race (Liengolsen). Racing for the 80 paddiers in this Division A race status at 10.30am, when the men's KL catagory sets off from the Chain Bridge Hotel, north-west of Languillen, north Wales on the River Dee. There is good spectating at the Chain Bridge Hotel, which is reached by the A542 Homashoe Pass and Ruthin road. The hotel is first left and here the paddiers negotate the Septent's Tai rapids. Another vartage point is the first in Languillen on the Town bridge. Here paddiers by over the Town Fafs to the Sensit the taskest having failer 13 to 14 families to complete the fromes units and the Course Languillen. Cayodd, is on AS, south-west of Westman.

CYCLO-CROSSIS BCCA International fundion E15). The course at the Eastway circuit has been amended to include greater use of road-contents to sense to enset to enset to ground accession.

tors expected at the World champtonships, near Paris, in February, Most of the country's leading amateurs will be inding in Great Britain, England or club colours. Speatheading this group are Roger Hormsmord, the 1992 junior world champton, Peter Stevenson and the James Norlok, the national champton. The British professional challengs is led by Bame Clarke, the national champton. The British professional challengs is led by Bame Clarke, the national champton. The British professional challengs is led by Bame Clarke, the national champton. The Frond, who was third last year, and Steve Douce. The first support race starts at 11am, with the intermental race in 12m. Eastway Cycing Cucuit is off Temple Mids Larie, behind the Stratford railway depol. Unidon E15. Other events. Alford Wheelers Cross (Alford). First race 10am, man race 10.45. Clarby Paris, Farm, Clasty, is south of Alford, Lincolnshine, off A1028. Middland League (Redditch). 12.45pm and 2pm. Pitcherdak Woods, 6 alongside A448 Bromsgone, north-west of Redditch, Hereford and Words-ster. Race headquarters are at Redditch Rugby and Hookey Club. North Easter CAS Sense; (Consett). 10am and noon. Consett Steehooris, Co-Durham, is 11/2 miles from A65 is girposted from Cornett Bank. Postponed (to next Sunday): Colchester Rovers Cross (Mistley). Wigan Wheelests (Wigan). 10.30am, 1.30am, 1

MIM42/A42 Des.

Next week
FOOTBALL (7.30 unless stated): Monday:
FA Carling Premisership: Notlingham Forest
v Wimbleton (8.0). Tuesday: English Cocavilled round: Reading & Bury
Readford v Nor-

with (7.45). Auto Windacreons Shield first round: Northern Soction Group Onc: Hartle-pool v Buckpool. Group Twee: Burnley v Chester. Group Twee: Notes Country v Stock-port 17.451. Group Feet Darfrighton v Lincoln. Group Stic. York v Mansheld (7.45). Group Soviet: Preston v Scarborhugh. Group Eight: Cariste v Dortcaster 17.45). Southern Section Group Direc Leyton Diron v Streetsbury (7.45). Group Four Weston Violentian Section Group Direc Leyton Diron v Streetsbury (7.45). Group Four Weston Worthampton v Pyrnouth (7.45). Group Four Weston Worthampton v Pyrnouth (7.45). Group Four Weston v Order (1.45). Group Five: Exter v Bournemouth (7.45). Group Feet Weston V Horder (1.45). Group Seven: Barnet v Oxford Utd (7.45). Group Seven: Barnet v Oxford Utd (7.45). Bell's Soctistis League Premier Division: Mothernet v Hoards (8.0). Wednesday: FA Carling Premiersbig: Newc.safe v Blackburn (7.45). English Coca-Cola Cup third round replay: Charlton v Wolverhampton (7.45); Lencaster v Bokon (7.45); Instituter v Birmangham. Auto Windacreene Shield first mund: Southern Section Group Eight: Swendon v Colonester (7.45). Anglo-thalian Cup Group A: Cessen v Luton (8.30) (at Archi Stadum); Stoke v Brusca (7.45). Group B: Knopga v Ipswich (8.30) (at Archi Stadum); Stoke v Brusca (7.45). West Brummich v Regisna (7.45). Group B: Knopga v Ipswich (8.30) (at Archi Stadum); Stoke v Brusca (7.45). West Brummich v Regisna (7.45). Group B: Knopga v Ipswich (8.30) (at Archi Stadum); Stoke v Brusca (7.45). Group B: Knopga v Ipswich (8.30) (at Archi Stadum); Stoke v Brusca (7.45). Group B: Knopga v Ipswich v British Church Stadum; Stoke v Brusca (7.45). Group B: Knopga v Ipswich period v Burner (7.45). Bel's Secution Lengue Premier Division: Aburdeen v Fallari, Celtic v Rattr. Heberian v Partick (Rimonrosk v Rongers, Estaty; FA Cup Birst round: Burniery v Wilsal.

bemish v Partici, Kimornosi v Rongars, Friday, FA Cup first round. Burnley v Walsali.
RMGSY UNDOR: Tuesday: Five Nations' European Cup Pool A: Bonéton Treviso v Faul Consentiol (7.0), CIS Instances Sortes Tour Match: Lianeth v Fix (2.30), Clob Matchess: Abergynon v Fronchy (7.0); Cambridge Univ v Northampton (7.15); Cardiff v Griguelland West (SA) (7.15); Coros heys v Bidnia (7.0); Maestey v Swerses (7.0); Mountain Ach v Portyphold (7.0); Neath v Odord Univ (7.0); Pontyphold (7.0); Neath v Odord Univ (7.0); Pontyphold (7.0); Neath v Odord Univ (7.0); Pontyphold (7.0); Neath of Ot Castres v Munster (7.0). Tour Matches Sale v Loughborough Student (7.30), Friday; Clob Matchess Abertideny Cross Rep (7.0); Barlay v Ebbw Vale (7.0); Bonymeen v Nutwerty (7.0); Cardiff v Cambridge Univ (7.0); Durward v Furwey (7.0); Kentig Hai v Neath (7.0); Liandovery v Builth Wels (7.0); Newport v Massey (7.0); Swansea v Leinster (7.0); Tearchy v Pontypool (7.0); Ronger v Pontypool (7.0); Render v Mouster (7.0); Render (7.0); Render (7.0); Durward v Pontypool (7.0); Render (7.0); Render (7.0); Cardiff v Construction (7.0)

pool (7.0). RACENSC. Monday: FOLKESTONE: Chub F12 under-16s mee; Tathersalls £8.50 iffer race 1.0). SOUTHWELL (All Weather): Chub F12: Tattersalls £6 (QAP members of course's Danard Club £4, accompanied under-16s free. II.4.60. Caristic Club £10. Tattersalls £6 (QAP: £3). (12.50). Tuesday: Ladiow: Club £14 rac.

compared under-16s freel; Tattersalls £9; Course £5, (1, 15). Sedgerfield: Products £7 (CAPS £3.50; Course £2, (1,0). Wedbeschap; UNREFIELD (AW): Members £12; Tattersalls £8; Sher Ring £4, (1,1). Newbury: Members £13; Tottersalls £8; Sher Ring £4, (1,1). Newbury: Members £13; Tottersalls £8; Sher Ring £1 (CAPS £12,5); Intersalls £9; Course £4, 50; CAPS £2,5); LOU, Thersday; Melser Quo £10; Tattersalls £6; Course £4, 50; E13; Tattersalls £8; Course £4, 50; E13; Tattersalls £8; Course £4, 13,0). Townsort: Members £12; Paddock £3,50; Centre of Course £4, 13,0). Townsort: Members £12; Tattersalls £8; Course £4 (Car plus all excupants £15); 12,0). Friday: LINGFIELD (AW): as Wednesday; (1,10). Ayr. Club £12; Grandstand £5 (OAP): hill-prod; (1,10). Chelkenham: Chin £15; (Profer's Enciosure £5, (1,20). Hunthingdom: Members £12; Tattersalls £8; Course £4, (12,45). NEXT WEENEND FOOTBALL: Saburday; FA Cup first round; English £13; For For Formorship (1,0). Encisiogh Logge: First Denson: Wolverhampton v Charifton (2,55). FA Cup first round; Wypombe v Gallengham (8,0). RIGHER EAGUE: Saburday; FA Cup first round; Wypombe v Gallengham (8,0). RIGHER EAGUE: Saburday; FA Cup first round; Wypombe v Gallengham (8,0). RIGHER EAGUE: Saburday; FA Cup first round; Security Course; £15; Grandstand £6, (7,0). Ayr. as Finday, (12,35). Chelkenhamper Cub £10; Grandstand £6, (7,0). Ayr. as Finday, (12,35). Chelkenhamper Cub £10; For Finger §1, 110; For Finger §1, 110; For Finger §2, 110; For Finger §2, 110; For Finger §3, Chelkenhamper Cub £10; For Finger §4, 110; Finger §1, 110; Finger §1, 110; Finger §1, 110; Finger §2, 110; Finger §1, 110; Finger §2, 110; Finger §1, 110; Finger §2, 110; Finger §3, 110; Finger §4, 110; Finger §4, 110; Finger §4, 110; Finger §4, 110; Finger §6, 110; Finge Rasen: Club £12: Tattersals £8 (OAPs wto are members of course's lubine C.u.h £4; 53-ver Ring £4 (Lubiec Club OAPs £21, 12.50). Whindson; Club £12: Tattersals £8; Siver Ring £4 (1.30). Sunday: Chebonham: Club and Tattersals £12; Undar, 16-24 years, £8; Foster's Encloure £5. (1.15). Formwell: Club £12; Lurur Club £12 o 15-year-ofts) £2, under-12s free; Tattersals £8 (accompanied under-16s free); Siver Ring £4, (1.0).

Plan ahead

Sepren Hendy played some of the best snooker of his career when he beat ken Doherty to win his third Royal Liver Assurance. UK Championship at Presson last year. A favounte among the players, the UK championship is the most prestigous ranking fournament after the World championship. This year's event at the Guild Hall from 17 November to 3 December will be contested by the 3 December will be contested by the world's leading 32 players plus 32 qual-

In the run-up to Christmas, the UK Championship is flanked by two attractive tournaments. The Benson and Hedges Champonship, starting an Edinburgh on Monday, may not count the top 16 in the world rankings among the 192 professional players competing, but the winder automatically receives a wild-card entry to the important invitation event, the Benson and Hetiges Masters at Wembley in Selvination.

Wembley in February.
The European Open has been moved from its December slor to February and the German Open takes its place. Held at the Frankfurt Messe from 4 to 10 December, it is no small event, with £230,000 in prize-money, of which the winner receives £40,000.

Booking forms for the Embassy World Championship, at Sheffield from 20 April to 6 May, will be available in early December and can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Crucible Theatre. Benson and Hedges Championship. 6-14 No.

Berson and Hedges Champleriship. 6-14 November.

IP Leisure Centra, 25 locks Lodge, Mendowhenk, Edinburgh, Spectating 18 free except
for final bird days fundation only), 6-10 Novembor, sossions 10am, 12-30pm, 3pm,
7-30pm finals from finals finals; 13
November, 130pm, 7-30pm finals.
November: 130pm, 7-30pm finals.
Royal Liver Assurance UK Open, Guid Hall,
Preston, 17 November: 3 December, 12m, 7-32
November: 1pm session £2, 7pm £3;
23-24 November: 1pm session £2, 7pm £3;
23-52 November: 1pm session £2, 7pm £3;
25-50 £4.50; 1 December: 1pm
545.50, 7pm £3; 25-50 £4.50; 1 December: 1pm
545.50, 7pm £3; 25-30 November: 1pm
55.50, 7pm £3; 3 December (finals); 2pm £10,
7pm £12; Box office 01772 2589581
German Open, Familiant Messe, Frankuri -am
Naga, 4-10 December, Toker details to be an
nounced.

Embassy World Championships, 20 April 6 May 1996 Details of forthcoming events with information on lickets and venues should be sent to: The Sports Desk The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 SDL, Fact 0171 293 2894. Compiled by Paul Maher

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Searching for elusive answers

milation for Rangers. Whatever day, you know autumn is here it the now-annual outbreak of ast beating about the fate of in tish clubs in the Champions

For fate, read failure, Pundits ike Mark Lawrenson and lievor Brooking lined up to deiver damaing verdicts yesterday. They also spoke constructively if the need to foster technical excellence from the age of right, as is the practice on the Continent, and of reducing rowded fixture lists.

The analysis is as accurate as t is familiar, but in the case of Blackburn, too convenient a mokescreen to hide behind, For all the mistakes made by Manchester United, Arsenal and Leeds in recent seasons. ione embarked upon the Euopean Cup adventure with unite the same naïvety and wil-ul lack of readiness.

A return of a single point and solitary goal renders their renaming games, away to Spartak vioscow and home to Rosenorg froudheim, mere academic xercises. Despite splashing 32m on players in four years, Blackburn will go down in his-ory as one of England's least listinguished ambassadors.

Malcolm Allison may be empted to instigate libel proreedings over the comparison. out it is arguable that only his Manchester City side of 1968 beaten in the first round by Turkish opposition) and the Ipswich team of six years earlier (who had the excuse of losing to Milan) made as little impact.

Blackburn's campaign has been marked by poor planning off the pitch and a dearth of imagination on it. It was revealing that, several days after buying Lars Bohinen, Ray Har-ford had to ask reporters whether he would be eligible for

> Legia Warsaw, whose draw at Ewood Park on Wednesday gave hem four points against Harord's team, had buttled through irom the preliminary round. Not that the Poles will worry Juennis or Ajax. Nothing has appeared to challenge the inial engression that Group B was he weakest section.

> Harford, a likeable man whom the players regard as the exaching architect of their title riumph, should not shoulder all he blame. More than anyone.

Phil Shaw and Glenn Moore on why British clubs are

failing in Europe Kenny Dalglish ought to have known what lay in store. However, he seemed happy to rest on his laurels during the summer, taking a meaningless title

and a back seat. That was when the seeds of Blackburn's demise were sown. At a time when Dalglish's reputation and Jack Walker's millions could have been used to take them on to the next phase in their development, they allowed the likes of Arsenal and Newcastle to outflank them in the transfer market.

The error was compounded when, after all the hype about the former Liverpool manager being the ideal person to scout their opponents, Blackburn's boot room" settled for watching them on video.

Having apparently learned nothing from United's experiences, or their own trauma against Trelleborgs, they thus went into the Champions' League "blind". The result was embarrassment by average teams from middle-ranking European powers.

In the aftermath of Rangers' second thrashing in a fortnight it was a startling, and somewhat sobering, thought that they are still in the competition. They would need to defeat

Borussia Dortmund in Germany, and Steaua Bucharest at home, while hoping both teams lose to Juventus. The second is the more likely prospect. Walter Smith, the Rangers' manager who awoke to headlines like "Tallies...8, Wal-

lies...out", "Nightmare" and

"You're pasta joke Gers" would

only say "we il see" when asked about the future. He did say there would be no drastic overhaul, blaming selection problems rather than lack of ability. While he had a point, Juventus' own injury problems forced three changes

Should Rangers qualify, one shudders to think what could happen in the quarter-finals at present the draw pits them against Ajax. The Dutch were held to a draw by Grasshopper Zurich on Wednesday but remain on course for a mouth-watering final with Juventus.

to their Turin line-up.



Macclesfield dreaming of title

Non-League notebook RUPERT METCALF

team to play Albania in Tirana Macclesfield Town are back on 15 November in their final Enropean Championship qualifier. where they finished last season Bobby Gould, the Wales - on top of the GM Vauxhall manager, has decided to start Conference, Tuesday's 2-1 win the game with the 11 players at their local rivals, Stalybridge who began last month's 2-1 de-Celtic, took them three points feat by Germany in Cardiff. "I clear of both the pre-season tihave explained everything to tle favourites. Woking, and the Mark and other senior players 1994 champions, Kidderminster such as Ian Rush, and there is

It is a commendable achieve-

ment by the Silkmen, who have

had to cope with a serious in-

jury crisis this season. Seven

first-team players are current-

ly out of action with long-term

ailments as Macclesfield's man-

squad to mount another title

no confrontation of any kind whatsoever," Gould said. WALES (E ders (Gaistessrag), Giggs (Manchestyr, Jasanders (Gaistessrag), Giggs (Manchestyr), Haufer (Sheffled United), Alse travelling: Coyne (Traumers), Marriott (Westam), G Williams (Bostel), Hodges (Sheffled United), A Williams (Resding), Colesson (Cystal Palace), Mardon (WBA), C Hagfles (Luton), Phillips (Notto Forest), Laylor (Cystal Palace), Hartson (Arsene), Reah (Liverpool). ager, Sammy McIlroy, has needed every one of his 22-man

Wales leave

out Hughes

Mark Hughes and Ian Rush

have been left out of the Wales

"We're not playing the sort of football that we produced last season," McIlroy said last night, but we're giving 100 per cent in every game and getting the

Macclesfield have not yet needed to call on two veterans who have turned out for their reserve side this term: McIlroy himself, the former Manchester United and Northern Ireland midfielder, and his one-time Old Trafford colleague and England winger, Gordon Hill.

cruiting some experienced non-League men, including two England semi-professional internationals: Paul Cavell, the former Redbridge Forest striker who arrived in the summer from Gateshead, and Tony Hemmings, the former Northwich Victoria winger signed

this week on a free transfer from Wycombe Wanderers. Macclesfield are also making

progress off the pitch: they have received a grant of £250,000 from the Sports Grounds Initiative which will enable them to increase the seating capacity at their Moss Rose ground to 2,050. Having been denied promotion to the Football League in the summer because stadium improvements had not been completed in time, the Silkmen are making sure they will not miss out again should they stay on top of the table and retain their title.

"The ground won't be a problem but the hardest thing will be winning the league again," McIlroy said. Tomorrow his side will be seeking another away win at the early-season leaders, Hednesford Town.

back to Toyota. nark. "Why would the team director support a driver who feated the No 2, Lizzie Jelfs

ordering McRae to concede victory was the real danger from the unpredictable Spanish fans, who have been known to throw rocks at rival drivers in an attempt to benefit their

A key reason for Richards

was leaving the team? Last week we all had a good idea

Carlos was leaving.

terday ruled out by the 555 Subaru team, for whom both In Spain, when McRac stormed past Sainz (known affectionately as "El Mata-It was the team director. dor") and was soon leading David Richards, who controthe rally by nine seconds, versially decided the outcome the Spanish crowd were furious. Placards berated the of the Catalunya Rally in Scot, even though the team Spain 10 days ago by imposhad made it clear that Sainz ing a "hold positions" order on would win. A Subaru team Sainz and McRae. Sainz's win support car even had its tyres and McRac's second place put the pair equal at the top of the Championship, eight points

McRae is now worried that

year's

Carlos's

McRae said.

local heroes.

Rivalry fuels

McRae in his

title pursuit

Jeremy Hart on the challenge

The gloves will be off in a straight fight for the 1995 World Rally Championship between Britain's Colin

McRae and Spain's Carlos Sainz in the RAC Rally, the

season's finale in two weeks'

time. A threat that the joint

Championship leaders would

he ordered home in a prede-

termined formation was ves-

facing Britain's No 1 rally driver

a foolish minority of the two ahead of the four-times champion Juha Kankkunen. million spectators on the RAC The news that the season's might try and take the Championship into their own hands, climax will be decided on drias allegedly

ver skill and mechanical reliability will come as little relief Scotland's Colin McRae rally champi on and determined become his country's first world cham-The pion. fiery Scot feels that he should have

now be 10 points ahead of, not level pegging with the twice world champion from Madrid. "[Catalunya] was the best rally of my career, I was beating Carlos fair and square on the last day and it was wrong of DR (David Richards) to impose team orders with the Championship at stake," McRae said. "It is considerably harder starting [the RAC] knowing that you have to

win," he admitted. The irony of the situation is not lost on McRae. Four days after losing in Spain for fear of retribution from his team, McRae found out for sure that Sainz will leave Subaru. who he won the World Championship with in 1990 and 1992, after the RAC Rally and move

"Now he has signed for Toyota, it makes the decision even more ludicrous," protested the 27-year-old from La-



would urge them not to. If that's the way the Championship will be decided. I don't want to win it."

That McRae will arrive in Chester two weeks on Sunday level with Sainz at the top of the Championship leaderboard is a miracle in itself. Half-way through the eightround season, the Scot was winless and had virtually given up hope of winning the Championship in 1995. Two the second half of the year has put him within reach of his childhood dream.

Toyota team Europe, for whom the current world champion Didier Auriol and fourtimes champion Kankkunen drive, could be banned from the RAC Rally and even the world championship for up to a year at a hearing in Paris on Friday if they are found guilty of deliberately breaking technical rules at the Catalunya Rally in which both drivers were disqualified.

Smith ready for another examination by Durie With respect to Durie, a 35- Karen Cross, in the quarter-fi- something different - a sliced ty good tennis when I play well

IOHN ROBERTS

Today's women's singles semiinals at the Guardian Direct National Championships proride an interesting mixture. Clare Wood, the No 1, meets Amanda-Janes, a 17-year-old qualifier with a world ranking of No 793, and Jo Durie, the Dame Vera Lyan of the British game, faces play-it-again Sam Smith, a 23-year-old newly restored to the sport from uni-

Woosnam

Sweats out

'punishment'

Ian Woosman sweated his way

to a five-under-par 07 in the first

round of the Alfred Dunhill

Masters in Jakarta, Indonesia,

The Welshman overcame

temperatures of over 100F to fire

five birdies and no boseys on the magnificent. Arnold Palmer-

designed course at the Emeral-

da Golf and Country Club. He

is one stroke off the lead, held jointly by Australians Craig Par-

ty and Paul Gow, along with

to enter the event a few weeks

ago, said; "It's my punishment

for playing badly all year. I

haven't won a tournament for

a while and I want desperately

to win one before the end of the

ear, but in these conditions it

is very hard to keep your con-

a first-round 72 to be six shots

off the pace, set by Seiki Oku-

da of Japan, in the Daiwa International in Sudama, Japan.

centration and score together."

Sweden's Mathias Gronberg. Woosnam, who only decided

vear-old who has won the title on seven occasions and is taking a week out of retirement, it would serve the cause best if Smith advances to the final, and everyone who has been charmed by Janes's refreshing style will hope that her serve and volley game tests the top seed.

The daughter of Christine Janes, née Truman, who performed with distinction in an era when Britain produced international champions, capitalised on her victory against the seventh seed. Lucie Ahl, by flummoxing the third seed.

Badminton

"I break up their rhythm in certain ways because I'm coming in all the time," young Janes said. I think it must be a shock to them. They don't get a chance to rally, that's the theory." An excellent notion it is, too.

in an age when the majority of players are schooled to launch missiles from the baseline. Perhaps Janes's natural talent squad training system. Durie observed that "nowa-

should be shielded from the

backhand, or you come in to the net - it really helps. I think it's the game of the future."

The former world No 5 added: "I'm a bit puzzled about the way Amanda forms some of her strokes, but they are effective. She has a lovely sliced backhand and a powerful serve. She comes in on the right balls and just needs

to tighten up her volleys."

Durie, the fourth seed, accounted for another British prospect, the 19-year-old Mandy Wainwright, 6-2, 6-3. "I know Mandy wanted to beat me days on the tour if you have badly, but I can still play pret-

and without pain." Durie said. "I came to Telford to enjoy myself, to play for fun, without nerves. I'm not getting myself into an absolute knot, as I did when I played." Wood ended an impressive se-

quence of results by the 17-year-old Jasmine Choudhury, 6-1, 6-3. The qualifier from Cambridge had a break point in the opening game, three more in the second game of the second set, and managed to break back to 3-3, helped by Wood's doublefaults, before the Sussex player's experience proved decisive.

who was Britain's highest ranked woman a few weeks ago, 6-2, 7-5. In 1991, the year before Smith opted for a degree course in history, she played Durie in the semi-finals here. Durie won in straight sets after saving a set point in the first set with the aid of a net cord. Tim Henman, the third seed.

advanced to the men's singles quarter-finals with a 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 win against Andrew Richardson and plays the 18year-old Jamie Delgado, who was a semi-finalist last year.

SPORTING DIGEST

National Boxing Federation that Ellis has been stripped for "misconduct before and after" his points win over Eric Alexan-der, of the United States, for the vacant

Next year England A will face "The Rest" in a four-day Tetley Shield game at Chelmsford, starting on Saturday 20 April, as a Test trial, to give the selectors an early opportunity in the season to start making their assessments of individual players. Kim Barnett, the 35-year-old former Eng-

and batsman, looks set to play out his career with Derbyshire after announcing yesterday that he would be staying with the county, despite rumours during the summer that he would leave when he date in the contribute. when he gave up the captaincy.

SHETTIELD SHEELD: Melboarne (second day of four): Victoria 158 (M T G Eliot 53; G R J Members 4-52; New South Wates 211 for 7 fM A Taylor 126; S R Wageh 80). Mobalt (first day of four): Teamants 73 for 1 v Queensland. gen (Eng) 7-11 11-8 11-9; Yao Yan (Lh) at Chi-gens (Indon) 11-2 7-11 11-9; Chiagrasson (Seve) dens (Indon) 11-3 11-8; M. Audina On-den) to Teng Yaqong (Chi 11-0 11-9; Taleado kia-Capen) ti it Schornstring (Ger) 11-2 11-2; Rs. Ngung-min (S Korl ix D Julen (Can) 11-5 11-8; Ngung-min (S Korl ix D Julen (Can) 11-5 11-8; Fen Litus (Ch) try 8 (India (Ch) 12-10 11-5; Kim S-tyun (S Korl ix Ng Chang (HO) 11-1 11-1; D Bengasson (Swe) th Yasuko Mittu (Boam) 11-5 12-10; Ya Zhaogang (Ch) bi Somitaruthal Jarconsin (Indi) 11-2 11-1. of four): Teamants 73 for 1 v Queerseno.
TOUR MATCHES: Adelaide (first day of four):
South Austeila 282 for 4 (8 Johnson 54, D S
Lehmann 109no v Paleston. Hyderabad (first
day of three): New Zeeland 367 for 3 (R G Taxos
118 retired, M D Crowe 110, S P Fleming 50no)

Football

Lester Ellis, of Australia, has been stripped of the International Boxing Or-Altrincham's FA Cup first-round tie at home to Crewe Alexandra has been ganisation junior-middleweight title he won four months ago. Gary Piner, the switched from tomorrow week to Werines day 22 November, due to internation 180 charman, instructed the Australian

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Football

COU CITEGO SALES AND PROMISE OF IRELAND Premier Division: Bohemans v Shamock Rovers (7.45): St Patrck's Athletic v Shelbourne (7.45). Mark Montand, who teams up with Woosman for Wales in next week's Heineken World PAULE > PREVIOUS V CHARGES (1.40).
ICES LEAGUE Second Division: Leatherhead V Banstead Athlebc. Cup in China, shot a two-under-PARISHEN AND REWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE EDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE (est Devialon: Chester-le-Street v Durham. Britain's Richard Boxall shot GREAT MILLS LEAGUE Premier Divisi Frome v Chippenham (7.45).

STONES CENTENARY CHAMPIONSHIP: Londs y Wigan (7.30).

Rugby League

8.0 unless stated

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Hernel Hempstand Royals v Sheffield Sharler; London Towers v Dontaster Parthers; Newcastle Cornets v Birm-ingham Bullets; Tharmes Valley Tigers v Wor-

Other sports BOOME: Vacant Commonweath middleweight title (Dudley Town Hall); Robert McCracken (Eng) v Fitzgerald Bruney (Can). TENNIS: Guardian Direct National Champion-ships (Telford).

West Ham's chief scout Ronnie Boyce, who scored for the Hammers in the 1965 European Cup-Winners' Cup fi-nal against 1860 Munich, has left the club after 35 years. DAY'S LATE RESULTS: Euro

Culti Sifter 35 years.

Weithesthan's Late Result's: European Champions' League Group & Parethrosics 0 Porto C. Authorg O Names 2: Group its Spartan Moscow 4 Recentrol 2: Backum O Lega Wessen C. Stroug Creating 1: Blackum O Lega Wessen C. Stroug Creating 1: Blackum O Lega Wessen C. Stroug Creating 1: Blackum O Lega Wessen C. Stroug Creating 1: United Cup second recent second leg Lets (Fr) 4 Chernomorets Ocean (Rat of Lets win 4-0 on aggregate). Budsingly Inscreance League Second Distalant Norse County 4 Errot-tors 1. Third Divisions Resisted Interior 2. Proceeds League First Divisions: Lector 3 Bolton 1: Shellad Wednesday 5 Manchester United 2. Proceeds League First Divisions: Lector 3 Bolton 1: Shellad Wednesday 5 Manchester United 3. Second Divisions: Southrope 0 Strainshay 3; Wegan 1 Crester O. Amon leasurace Combination First Divisions Assensi 2 Brosto Gly 1: Nonwer 2 Bowen 1: Oxford Utt 3 Charton 4: Section 1: Deven 1: Oxford Utt 3 Charton 4: Section 1: Beauty Town 6 After Ledo C. Ceremarion Town 1 Banger Cup: Newport AFC 1 Broston 1: Beauty Town 6 After Ledo C. Ceremarion Town 1 Banger Cup: Covernes Bay 2 Prothosol 2: Division 1: Beauty Town 6 After Ledo C. Ceremarion Town 1 Banger Cup: Covernes Bay 2 Prothosol 2: Division 1: Beauty Town 6 After Ledo C. Ceremarion Town 1 Banger Cup: Covernes Bay 2 Prothosol 2: Division 1: Beauty Town 6 After Ledo 6: Program 1: Lenger 5 Letoscal 6: Dubley 4 Spurhode 4: Paget Renger 5 Letoscal 6: Dubley 4 Spurhode 7: Paget Renger 5 Letoscal 1: Deven 1: Deven 1: Deven 1: Letoscal Cup Second Indicater Facult Cellor 2: Divisions Leves O Westers County Lenger First Divisions Leves O Westers County Lenger First Divisions Rown 0 of Second 1: Renamer 8: Northern 2: Renamer 1: Re

Rounds 1 Cogernoe 2; St Neots 3 Stawar yds Corby 1. Women's European Cham p Group Three: England 1 haly 1.

denne, Japan; Leading first-mond scores (Japan unless stated; 86 S Olecte: 67 S Mestys-me; 69 K Talam; 70 S Volent; T Naternurs; D Ishii (US). Selected: 72 P Bosal (GB). Ignii (US). Selected: 72 R Dougli (GS).
ALFRED DURNHLI MASTERS (Jaiotte, Indon)
Leeding first-roand accres (GB or let insless
stated): 66 M Gronberg (Swe); P Gow (Aud); C
Parry (Jau); C Police (Aud); C
Parry (Jau); C Police (Jau); C
M God (GB); C Police (Ff); T
Z V Singn (Fil);
A Copia (GB); W Geo); (Aud); T
Z I Balker-First
(Aud); T
S S Struver (GB); T
R R Muniz (Neth); T
R Leckers.

ice hockey NHL: Pittsburgh 10 Tampa Bay 0; Buffalo 2 De-trot 1; Washington 5 Montreal 2; Chicago 1 De-las 1; cot; Toomto 4 Winness 2; Colorado 6 Calgay 1; Anaherm 3 St. Louis 0; Edmonton 3 Vancou-ver 3 cot.

Ross Norman, the English-based New Zealander who ended one of squash's most famous records, has decided to INDEX MEMOUS RECORDS, IRES GECGEQ to retire from the professional game. The 36-year-old halted Jahangir Khan's unbeaten five-and-a-half-year run when he defeated the Pakistan legend to win the World Open In Toulouse in 1986.

Rugby Leage
Shaun Edwards has overcome the knee Infection that forced him out of the World Cup and will play for Wigan at Leeds tonight, but Andrew Farrell is

doubtful with a groin strain. Biackpool Gladiators have applied to re-join the Rugby League, three years af-ter losing their place. Apollo Perelini, the St Helens forward, is likely to be out of action for at least a month due to damaged knee liga-ments suffered during Wednesday's 50-34 victory at London Broncos.

John Clarke, the Oldham hooker, who broke his arm at Wigan six weeks ago, suffered the same injury in his comeback match against Workington on Wednesday night.

Rugby Union Tim Stimpson, the 22-year-old full-back, has been appointed captain of West Hartlepcol, who find themselves at the

bottom of the First Division following eight successive defeats with Phil Lancaster WESTERN SAMOA SQUAD (Tour of England and Scotland, 8 Nov to 16 Dec): M Vata, 1 Filemu, D Kellen, C Burnes, K Tuigarnela, 5 Leega, T've, G. Geouppe, 6 Lima, T Fasuesso, A Tetra, F Facto, A Autogospa, V Patu, T Leissamavao, T Leota, G Lim, P Fetteldofa, M Milos, 8 Rock, M Birtwhistle, P Leasasa, L Felsmica, S Lernamea. S Vatille, S Smith, L Taska, M lupel, P Lam Leapt, S Katela.

S Keleta.

S Keleta.

SCOTLAND A (v Westorm Sannos, Hamich, 12
Nov): S D Lung (Heriot's FP); H R Gilmoter (Heriot's FP). S A Nichol (Selent), I C Jardine (Spring Cours), D A Start, Broughmunt; W S Wests Ditwick), G Armstrong (Jed-Forest, capt): A V Start (Brisso), D G Blis (Runic), A P Barnell (London Scottish), J Elliet (Hamich), S J Gamphell Dunden HSFP), EW Ferbers (Brith), B L Romeick (Hamich), J P Armos (Gala), Replacements: S R Laling Dristoniane), S R S Erfesson (London Scotsh), A D Nicol (Berry), B & Burnel (Bornglyrum), S W Paul Gleron's FP), S Scott (Melrose).

PARIS OPEN MEN'S INDOOR TOURNAMENT Third sound: J Courser (US) bt M Larsson (Swe) 6-3 6-4; M Chang (US) bt A Mechedav (Un) 2-6 6-3 7-5; R Krajloek (Noterly Id P Maarhus (Neth) 6-4 6-2; D Vacet (Cr Rep) to G Forget (Fr) 5-2 (Forget withdraw due to ricky): J Hasek (Swe) bt M Rosset (Swit) 2-6 7-6 7-6; W Ferreira (SA) bt S Bruguera (Sp) 6-2 3-6 7-6. or S program (s) 62 5-6 7-6.

BELL CHALLENGE WOREDY'S TOURNAMENT
(Quebne) First round: 8 Schultz-McCarthy
(North) bt J Nejedy (Ca) 1-6 6-2 6-4. Second
resenth A Costae (SA) tr S Staffort (US) 6-1 2-6
6-2; D Morrent (Bel) bt I Comptiblegal May 6-3
6-2; L Countils (Bel) bt R Simpson (Car) 6-4 6-3.

BANK OF THE WEST CLASSIC (Omition), Cally Second round: M Mellows (Bul) bt LN-Nei (US) 6-16-4; M-J Fernandez (US) bt C Singler (Ger) 6-06-3; V Millams (US) bt A Frasier (US) 4-66-36-3; H Sukous (Cz Rep) bt K Po (US) 5-77-66-2; Z Garrison-Jackson (US) et K Adams

TOPPER OPEN (Montavideo, Una) Singles sec-and reunds F Meligeru (Br) bt C Costa (Sp) 6-4 7-6 6-2; J Burlio (Sp) bt C Moya (Sp) 7-6 7-5; M Filippire (Una) bt J Sanchez (Sp) 7-6 4-6 7-5; A Berasategu (Sp) bt E Sanchez (Sp) 6-2 6-0.

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of games Aiax

15

have played in creating the longest unbeaten run in the European Cup. By drawing against Grasshopper Zurich on Wednesday, they beat the previous record of 14, held by Liverpool and Ajax themselves.

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inancial oe about uck, Mrs received rocess to gin next ggestion

outspo liarmid. school, ys, par-ch Col-

KEN JONES: The thinking man's heavyweight

Smith's failure **worries England**

Cricket

JAMES ALEXANDER reports from East London England 218-4

The contrasting fortunes of three of England's batsmen were further emphasised here yesterday. Mark Ramprakash and John Crawley made runs and generally looked the part, while Robin Smith was out, third ball, for nought. He has scored just four runs in three first-class innings and Smith knows only too well it can be difficult for batsmen to emerge from troughs of poor form on tour. England want Smith in nick and in the side, but the dye is often cast in the opening month.

The liaison between Ram-

prakash and Crawley was seen by some as a head-to-head contest for the No 3 batting position. In reality, though, Ramprakash is comfortably ahead in that particular duel and Crawley's most realistic target is Smith's place. Ramprakash's innings was the more pleasing of the two. His half-century occupied 63 balls, exactly half that of Crawley, and his driving was elegant and effective. Ramprakash entered this tour on the back of a mighty sequence of scoring and everything points to his being able to maintain that form. After registering a pair in the second Test at Lord's and being dropped, Ramprakash piled up nine centuries including three doubles in 15 first-class innings. His scores have been 48, 89 not out and now 70 be-

fore driving to cover. After heavy overnight rain had wiped out the pre-lunch session and Alec Stewart Ramprakash and Crawley put on 120 in 33 overs for the second wicket. However well they played - and they experienced few alarms - this must be put in perspective. The attack was undemanding and the pitch slow and low, quite a contrast from the expected lively surface for the first Test at Centurion Park in a fortnight. Ray Illingworth is unhappy England have played all their games on pitches which profacing Allan Donald and his

When Crawley was promoted to open the innings in Ade-laide last winter, be made nought in each innings. His nate all errors, which does not make for exhilarating viewing. Crawley's 85 at Soweto occupied more than six hours, now he took 69 overs to make 87 not out. It would have been more if was as adept at piercing the offside field as he was the leg side.

them, is now England's major concern. He shuffled half-forward and was lbw. Scores of 4, 0 and 0 - plus 12 and 33 in the one-day warm-ups - constitute a mini crisis for the highest-scoring international batsman in the party. Smith can consult television hypnotists and convince himself his mind is strong all he likes, but a pragmatist such as Illingworth is concerned only with runs in the book. If we can assume Ramprakash will bat at three, Crawley or Smith will perhaps be the most keenly debated

Graeme Hick, after getting off the mark with a couple of resounding pulls, attempted a cut and was caught behind off the bottom edge. Meanwhile, Graham Thorpe, due to play in this match, has returned home to be with his wife, who has had to have an operation because of an ectopic pregnancy. Thorpe is expected to rejoin the squad

(First day of four, ENGLAND -

Boths 9-0-29-0; Emsise 5-0-31-0; Howel 8-0-33-0; Cronie 8-1-18-1; Pope 3-0-15-0; Strydom 1-1-0-0.

auyaum 1-1-0. BORDER: P J Botha, F J C Cronje, P N Kinsten*, D J Cullinan, P C Strydom, S C Rope, 15 J Pa-framen, I L Howell, B C Foune, P A N Emsle, M Nonl.

Curtly Ambrose, the West Indies pace bowler, has agreed a one-year contract to become Northamptonshire's overseas player next summer. Ambrose returns for a sixth season after being replaced by Anil Kumble last summer while he toured vide no sort of preparation for England with the West Indies.



in the groove: John Crawley hits out during his undefeated innings of 87 against Border in East London yesterday

Juninho cleared for his debut

Football

debut for Middlesbrough against Leeds Hitted at a sold-state out Riverside Hithm tomorrow. Yesterday the Football Association received international clearance from the Brazikan football confederation. Clearing the way for the COM clearing the way for the com-pletion of the 22-year-old's

£4.75m transfer from São Pau: "It is great news," Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough player-manager, said. "It takes away all the publicity and the type and leaves the lad free to get on with playing football." The international midfielder took part in a full-scale practice match yesterday. "He showed up well," Robson added. know it is some time since h played a match but he has a lot of natural fitness."

The former Chelsea striker, Robert Fleck, has been fined £1,000 and warned about his future conduct after being found guilty of misconduct by the Football Association.

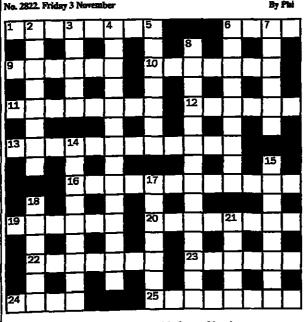
Fleck, 30, was punished fol-lowing an incident during Nor-wich's First Division game with Sheffield United at Bramall Lane on 9 September, when he abused an official after being

their attempt to have a twomatch ban imposed on their defender, Guy Butters, overturned on appeal. The former Tottenham defender was sent off for two bookable offences at West Broanwich on 21 October. After studying a yideo of the in-cident which led to the second yellow card - a challenge on Albion's Bob Taylor - the FA has upheld the red card decision by the referee, Uriah Rennie.

Paul Sturrock, the St John stone manager, will watch has side in action at Dumbarton tomorrow - three weeks after collapsing at the ground oi his former club, Dundee United. Sturrock, 39, has been given the all-clear by doctors after suffering severe chest pains during a Scottish League match at Tannadice Park on 14 October. However, he will merely be in the stand at Boghead Park, with his assistant, John Blackley, still in temporary charge.

The Dutch Football Associwho allegedly bet on matches in the Netherlands at which he of-ficiated. Dick Jol, who took charge of the abandoned friendiv between the Republic of Ireland and England in February, allegedly placed bets at a grocery store in The Hagne. Jol. 39 has described the allegations as "ridiculous."

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



- **ACROSS** Severe bottle's last to contain gold, sweet wine (8)
- Agile one gets out of shower (4) Holy man, individual that's died - being this? (6)
- 10 Unable to see English surely taking the French in 24 Nearby residence - part of
- 11 Greek cash laid out to get chair? Mad! (8) 12 Move aimlessly round China, with no end in view (6) 2 13 Sweet-shop owner to dis-
- notice (12) 16 Give game away about clean ship storage - it's for keeping menials (5-7) 19 It's a strike on island, Pa-

cific island (6)

cuss taking in inaccurate

- 20 Sort of leather very expensive, we hear? Not puite unable to pay (8) 22. Greenery provides shelter
- one with cigarette is in hiding! (7) 23 Present the standard church line (6) which is one for cows (4)
- 25 Allow embargo? (8) Foyer? There should be one, not more, after re-
- building (8) Medicine that's initially in reserve, running short (5) Character from Shakespeare, undeveloped, oper- 18 ating without intellect (4,
- Honoured retirees: see them get weary, rising before one (7) Gnarled trees held to be

Thursday's Solution

- secluded (9) Nothing missing from chicken roll (6) 4 down wants to edge in. enthralled by writer's joke
- 14 Arouse great interest in caftans, i.e. in embroidery
- 15 Soldier, say he's in club, withholding name no role model, he! (8) What the school-bell may do, though not working on a long-term basis (7)
- See narrow passage as ravine? (6) 21 Walk pompously in street (a well-trodden path) (5)

Chang manages to subdue Medvedev

Michael Chang kept alive his hopes of becoming the first player to win both the French Open and the Paris Open with a hard-fought 2-6, 6-3, 7-5, win over Andrei Medvedev in the third round of the Paris Open yesterday.

needed three sets and 142 minutes to reach the quarter-finals of the indoor tournament. The 23-year-old American, who has enjoyed a successful season with wins in Tokyo and Peking, had to draw on all his renowned fighting qualities to defeat the Ukran-

but Chang broke him in the second to open up a 4-2 lead and went on to take the set 6-3. The third set was a tense battle, with Medvedev leading 5-3 and serving for the match.

Medvedev threw his racket in

anger when he was broken in that game, and was broken again as

game, Medvedev earned two break points, but wasted both chances before hitting a return into the net on match point.

covered from a fractured ankle,

Chang now meets Jim Counier, who cruised to a 6-3, 6-4, win over Magnus Larsson of Sweden. Larsson, who has just re-

powerful groundstrokes.

Venus Williams beat fifthseeded Army Frazier in the sec. ond round of the Bank of the West Classic in Oakland, California. Williams, 15. who has played just four tournaments as a professional, secured a 46, i.e.

6-3, 6-3, victory.

Davies is thrown in as Cardiff try to cash in

Jonathan as Juninho is a pleasing image for Weish rugby to conjure but whether Jonathan Davies can do for Cardiff what the Brazilian has done for Middlesbrough without even playing a match will presumably depend on an unlikely surge in sales of Blue-and-Black merchandise.

Or alternatively on ticket sales. Davies was formally reintroduced to the rugby union world at the Arms Park yesterday having been informed that he would have to turn out - probably at full-back - in Cardiff's Welsh League fixture against Aberavon which, to maximise the moment, has been put back

"I would have liked a bit more time to settle into the game," he said. Too bad. It has cost something in excess of £60,000 to buy Davies out of the remainder of his rughy league contract with Warrington and Cardiff can already sense an instant return on that investment.

Not that they had to find all the readies themselves. Chris Evans, an academic and businessman who happens to hail from Aberavon, contributed substantially to the buy-out as did Jewson, the builders' merchant which will be using the returning Davies, even at 33, look a a messiah in the making.

Steve Bale sees a curiously diffident genius return to the rugby union ranks

saviour as part of its marketing Davies's playing contract, once

it is thrashed out, will be no different from that awarded to any other Cardiff player under rugby union's new professional dispensation. But in order for a career with Cardiff to be attractive enough he had to be guaranteed an income more or less equivalent to that which he enjoyed in the north of England.

Cardiff have had their financial travails in recent times, so their own marketing of Davies has the wider function of ensuring the club's future solvency or even prosperity. They can reasonably hope for a 14,200 full house on Sunday, which would compare with a paltry attendance of 2,800 when Aberavon were last the Arms Park, for the

cup quarter-final last season.
An additional 11,400 people

remarkably shrewd piece of business. Jonathan himself may have preferred to settle in quietly but, as he knows from his illustrious rugby league days, he is a commodity to be exploited no less now than then.

"It's another challenge I don't particularly need," was his curiously reluctant response. The sure is on, the expectation great, but you're going to have to be patient. It's not going to happen overnight. I won't be the ie player as maybe I was when I left but I've learned a lot of things along the way."

Nearly seven years have assed since Davies exchanged Llanelli for Widnes and as it will be only five days since he exchanged Warrington for Cardiff when he resumes his rugby union career he does not yet wish to join the debate about his chance of winning a 30th Welsh rugby union cap. "My first am-bition is to establish myself in the Cardiff team."

On the other hand, if anyone can do it Davies can. John Evans, the Cardiff chairman. An additional 11,400 people could amount to £70,000 or more in gate-takings - and that makes their investment in ever seen in my life." Clearly,

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